

VOLUME #4

10-29-85

TO  
2-14-86

OCRACOKE IS., N.C.

TO  
ST. PETERSBURG, FL.



College Ruled White Paper  
**Single Subject**

Dennison National Company, Holyoke, MA 01041

33-502  
80 Sheets  
7 3/4 x 5

160 9220

10-29-85

(35mi)

I MANAGED NOT TO GET BLOWN OFF THE BRIDGE BETWEEN BODIE & HATTERAS ISLANDS, THOUGH I DID GET BOUNCED AROUND A BIT.

I HAD THE WIND AT LEAST PARTIALLY AT MY BACK ALL DAY & SO HAD EASY PEDALLING. ONCE OR TWICE I TURNED UP INTO THE WIND & GOT A TASTE OF WHAT GOING NORTH WOULD BE LIKE. I WOULD HAVE HAD TO FLOG MYSELF SUN-UP TO SUNDOWN TO GET AS FAR. I GUESS THAT'S ONE MORE BLESSING I CAN COUNT.

I STOPPED TO TAKE A LOOK AT CAPE HATTERAS LIGHTHOUSE, THE TALLEST BRICK LIGHTHOUSE IN THE U.S.: I COULDNT GET INSIDE BECAUSE IT WAS BEING RESTORED ~~REPAIRED~~, WHICH WAS A BIT OF A DISAPPOINTMENT.

I TOOK THE 17th FERRY OF MY TRIP TO OCRACOKE IS, WHERE I'm ~~staying~~ CAMPING TONIGHT. IT WAS A SHITTY DAY FOR A FERRY RIDE, BUT IT WAS FREE.

9280

161

I DECIDED NOT TO PAY ANOTHER \$8 TO CAMP & AM FREE CAMPING IN THE BUSHES OFF ONE OF THE JEEP TRAILS ON THE ISLAND. IT WAS PRETTY HARD TO FIND A DECENT SPOT WITHOUT CACTUS (CACTI, REALLY) GROWING EVERYWHERE, SINCE I'M SURROUNDED BY SAND DUNES.

10 30-85

60mi

IT FINALLY STARTED RAINING. IT'S LOOKED LIKE RAIN FOR QUITE A WHILE, AT LEAST IT'S ONLY LIGHT DRIZZLE (FOR NOW ANYWAY).

I COMPLETELY FORGOT ABOUT THE SWITCH BACK TO ~~ESTATE~~ STANDARD TIME ON SUNDAY & LUCKILY I DIDN'T GET TO THE FERRY TERMINAL AT OCRAKOCHE TOO EARLY & HAD TO STAND AROUND IN THE RAIN & MUCK.

ONCE ON BOARD I SET ABOUT DOING A FEW CHORES, ON OCCASION SOMEONE WOULD STOP BY & ASK ABOUT MY TRIP. BY THE TIME I'D TALKED TO THE THIRD PERSON THE ENTIRE FERRY SEEMED TO KNOW WHAT I WAS UP TO & I WAS ALMOST BESEIGED WITH

QUESTIONS, PRAISE, ETC... IT'S SORT OF NICE TO BE MADE A FUSS OF ON A RAINY DAY.

LITTLE HAPPENED FROM THE TIME I DECKED AT CEDAR ISLAND <sup>WHERE</sup> I CAMPED (ABOUT 10 MILES WEST OF MOREHEAD CITY, NC), EXCEPT THE RAIN KEPT INCREASING STEADILY.

TO MINIMIZE THE AMOUNT OF DISCOMFORT (WHICH I KNEW WAS INEVITABLE IN MY BIVY SACK IN A HEAVY RAIN), I JURY-RIGGED A SHELTER USING MY TARP. I TOOK OFF MY TOE CLIP STRAPS TO USE TO SECURE ONE EDGE OF THE TARP TO MY BIKE, I SECURED ANOTHER CORNER TO A SMALL SHRUB USING A TWIST-TIE, GUYED OUT THE REMAINING CORNER WITH THE NYLON STRAP THAT I USE TO SECURE STUFF TO MY REAR RACK, & FINALLY PROPPED UP THE END NEAREST THE HEAD OF MY BIVY WITH A STICK TO INCREASE THE AMOUNT OF CLEARANCE I HAD UNDERNEATH.

AFTER ALL THAT I HAD ABOUT 15" OF CLEARANCE & HAVING TO SPED ALL MY RAINGEAR

161

9280

9280

162

BEFORE CLIMBING IN; GETTING COLDER;  
WETTER EVEN THOUGH I WAS ALREADY THOROUGHLY  
SOAKED MERELY ADDED TO MY SENSE OF FRUSTRATION.  
THINGS DID STEM A BIT CHEERIER ONCE  
I FINALLY GOT INSIDE, BUT HAVING A FEW  
POUNDS OF SAND FROM THE NIGHT BEFORE  
CLINGING TO MY WET LEGS WAS A SENSATION  
I COULD LIVE WITHOUT.

I MAINTAINED A REASONABLE DEGREE OF  
COMFORT DESPITE Hordes OF MOSQUITOES  
FOR ABOUT TWO HOURS. ABOUT THEN THE FOOT  
OF MY SLEEPING BAG WAS STARTING TO GET  
SOAKED; I KNEW THE BATTLE WAS LOST; IT  
WAS ONLY A MATTER OF TIME BEFORE THINGS  
GOT REALLY MISERABLE. BY THE END OF THE  
NIGHT IT WAS TOTALLY SOAKED ON THE BOTTOM  
FROM HEAD TO TOE, AS WERE MY CLOTHES.  
IT WAS VERY UNCOMFORTABLE TO STAY IN ONE  
PLACE BECAUSE WITH THE DWINDLING DAYLIGHT  
I HAD BEEN LYING DOWN TOO LONG; IT WAS  
JUST AS UNDESIRABLE TO MOVE AS I'D  
INEVITABLY SATURATE SOME PART OF

MY CLOTHING THAT HAD PREVIOUSLY BEEN DRY.

STILL, I'VE SURVIVED, SO WHAT THE HELL?

10-31-85

65mi

HALLOWEEN!

THE RAIN HAS FINALLY STOPPED; I'VE  
HAD TIME TO TAKE A SHOWER AT THE  
MARINA IN SWANSBORO (#1, UNLIMITED HOT  
WATER); WASH ALL MY GEAR AT A LAUNDRY-  
MAT. I MIGHT AS WELL BE OPTIMISTIC ABOUT  
THE WEATHER HOLDING; EVEN IF IT DOESN'T  
AT LEAST I'LL BE COMFORTABLE FOR A FEW  
HOURS TONIGHT.

THE LADY AT THE LAUNDROMAT WAS KIND  
ENOUGH TO SHOW ME A PICTURE & ARTICLE  
ABOUT A LOCAL GUY THAT JUST GOT HERE FROM  
CALIFORNIA. HE HAD A SONY TV, CASSETTE  
PLAYER & LAMP FOR HIS TENT WITH HIM THE  
WHOLE WAY ACROSS!

IT LOOKS AS THOUGH IT'LL BE A GOOD NIGHT

9345

9410 163

TONIGHT, BUT IT'S HUMID & VERY UNCOMFORTABLE  
IN MY BIVY SACK, EVEN LYING ON TOP OF ~~it~~. AND  
I CAN'T LEAVE IT UNZIPPED LONG BECAUSE THE  
MOSQUITOES ARE THICKER THAN COW SHIT &  
EVEN THOUGH I'VE GOT BUG REPELLANT ALL OVER  
ME, IT DOESN'T KEEP 'EM AWAY FOR LONG.

11-1-85

65mi

A NEW MONTH, BUT THE SAME OLD SHIT  
IN THAT DAMN BODY BAG! IT'S SYNONOMOUS  
WITH MISERY, DISCOMFORT, FRUSTRATION, & UTER  
& COMPLETE DISGUST. I THINK I'LL FIGURE OUT  
THE ONE PERSON I LIKE LEAST IN THE WORLD &  
GIVE IT TO HIM AS A PRESENT ONCE I REACH  
FLORIDA.

THE DAMN RAIN STARTED AGAIN LATE LAST  
NIGHT & ONCE AGAIN SLEEPING IN THE BIVY  
WAS LIKE SLEEPING IN A BATH TUB COVERED IN  
SARAN WRAP FROM ~~NECK~~ <sup>NECK</sup> TO ANKLES WITH  
THE FAUCET LEAKING ON YOUR HEAD & FEET  
SIMULTANEOUSLY.

I ~~REALLY~~ LACK THE WORDS TO ACCURATELY  
DESCRIBE THE PURGATORY OF SLEEPING IN

163 9410

THIS KING SIZE BAGGIE & WALLOWING IN THE  
SWEAT & DAMPNESS FOR NIGHTS ON END WITH  
THE DAMN THING CLINGING TO ME AS IF I  
HAD BEEN <sup>PST</sup> ~~PUT~~ THROUGH A SHRINK-WRAP  
MACHINE THAT HAD RUN AMUCK.

SO SOMETIME TODAY I'LL BE BLESSED  
WITH THE GOOD FORTUNE OF VISITING YET AN-  
OTHER LAUNDROMAT & WHILING AWAY MY MORNING  
WATCHING MY THINGS SPIN AROUND IN A CIRCLE  
FOR AN HOUR. AT LEAST I APPEARS THAT THIS  
FOOL WEATHER IS HEADED NORTH & I MAY BE  
ABLE TO CYCLE OUT OF IT BY EARLY AFTERNOON.

GETTING WET ALL THE TIME IS NO BIG DEAL,  
BUT I FEEL A LOT BETTER IF I CAN VENT MY  
FRUSTRATION NOW & AGAIN. LAST NIGHT REALLY  
HACKED ME OFF BECAUSE IT GOT ME OFF  
GUARD & THE BOOK I'VE BEEN READING GOT  
SOAKED, ALONG WITH A FEW OTHER LESS  
IMPORTANT ITEMS.

Well, I GOT A SLOWER AT THE 'Y' & MANAGED  
TO GET MY GEAR DRY FOR ONLY \$5.00 AT A LAUNDRO-

9410 63

MAT IN WILMINGTON! THINGS SEEMED TO GET A BIT BETTER. I ALSO BOUGHT ABOUT 30' OF NYLON CORD WHICH I'VE USED TO SUSPEND MY TARP BETWEEN A FEW TREES IN WHAT I HOPE IS MY BEST ATTEMPT TO STAY DRY. I DON'T KNOW WHAT ELSE I CAN DO SHORT OF BUYING A LARGER TARP.

I'M GETTING PRETTY SICK OF THE SELECTION OF BAKED GOODS I'VE FOUND SINCE MARYLAND - A LOT HIGH SUGAR, REFINED FLOUR CRAP! I CAN'T FIND BANANA MUFFINS ANYWHERE - I BET THE AVERAGE CAROLINIAN ONLY SHITS ABOUT ONCE A WEEK! ONCE I GET TO FLORIDA I'LL EAT SALADS FOR A MONTH.

I'M CAMPED A FEW FEET FROM HWY. 17, ABOUT A MILE OR TWO NORTH OF SOUTH CAROLINA.

I'M STARTING TO NOTICE A BIT OF A CHANGE AMONG THE ELIGIBLE FEMALES I'VE MET RECENTLY. FOR INSTANCE, WHEN CHECKING IN AT THE 'Y' TODAY THE GIRL AT THE COUNTER TREATED ME LIKE ANY OTHER SCHMIDT, BUT AFTER A GUY I HAD

164 9460

TALKED TO HAD TOLD HER WHAT I WAS UP TO, SHE ~~REALLY~~ LIT UP WHEN I CAME OUT OF THE SHOWER; I COULDN'T FIND OUT ENOUGH ABOUT ME. MAYBE I'M A CELEBRITY? MAYBE THE GIRLS DID BEAT A PATH TO AUNT PAT'S DOOR AFTER I LEFT BELLEVUE?

11-28-85

50 m.

AN UNINSPIRING DAY, TO SAY THE LEAST. IT HASN'T RAINED (YET), BUT IT'S BEEN OVERCAST WITH THICK GREY CLOUDS ALL DAY. SO, PRETTY HARD TO GET EXCITED ABOUT CYCLING.

I HAVE MANAGED TO BE PRODUCTIVE, HOWEVER. I'VE BOUGHT A NEW TIRE; REPLACED MY WORN ONE, THOROUGHLY CLEANED MY CHAIN (IT'S SHOT - I HOPE IT HOLDS TOGETHER FOR ANOTHER 800 MILES OR SO), BOUGHT THREE USED BOOKS, WROTE FIVE POSTCARDS, & READ EXTENSIVELY, SO AS TO BE ABLE TO JETISON MY CURRENT BOOK WHICH IS TOTALLY SOAKED & WEIGHS AT LEAST TWO POUNDS.

I'M OFF IN THE BUSHES CAMPING AGAIN,

9525

165

ABOUT TWO MILES SOUTH OF PAWLEY ISLAND, SC. I SURVIVED THE RAIN LAST NIGHT WITHOUT BEING DRENCHED; SO HAVE RIGGED MY TARP IN A SIMILAR MANNER IN HOPES OF TWO CONSECUTIVE NIGHTS IN COMFORT.

11-3-85

65 mi

I'VE KIND OF HAD THE 'BLAMS' THE LAST DAY OR SO. PARTLY BECAUSE OF: 1) THE WEATHER, 2) THE LACK OF SIGHTSEEING, 3) HAVING TO SLOW DOWN <sup>ENDS</sup> SO I DON'T GET TO MY NEXT MAILSTOP BEFORE MY MAIL DOES, 4) NOT HAVING ANYONE TO VISIT, 5) OR RIDE WITH, & 6) HAVING TO SPEND MORE THAN HALF THE DAY IN MY BAG. OF COURSE NONE OF THOSE THINGS ARE PERMANENT CONDITIONS, SO THINGS WILL IMPROVE SOON ENOUGH.

I'VE COME TO A CONCLUSION ABOUT THE EAST COAST SOUTH OF D.C.: IT'S FLAT & BORING! BUT THE REASON I'M OUT HERE DOING THIS IS TO FIND THAT OUT FOR MYSELF, SO I GUESS THAT'S PART OF THE GAME.

I'M CAMPING A FEW MILES SOUTH OF

166

9575

MONKERS CORNER, SC (I HOPE - I MAY HAVE MADE A WRONG TURN) IN PLACE THAT'S DEFINITELY IN CONTENTION FOR 'WORST CAMP SITE' AWARD. I'LL BE IN BAD SHAPE IF IT RAINS AS I'VE HAD TO THROW THE TARP ON THE WET GROUND TONIGHT. OF COURSE A VISIT TO THE LAUNDROMAT MAY SPICE UP MY DAY TOMORROW.

11-4-85

50 mi

NO CHANGE SINCE YESTERDAY, EXCEPT THE WIND PICKED UP, & STARTED BLOWING IN MY FACE. I'VE GOT THINGS SET UP FOR THE NEXT COUPLE OF DAYS SO I CAN QUIT FADING AROUND. I'LL HIT MY MAIL STOP AT SORRENCY, GA AS PLANNED.

AFTER THAT I'M THINKING OF TRYING TO FIND THE HOSTEL AT BROWNSVILLE SO I CAN SLEEP INDOORS WITH ELECTRIC LIGHTS FOR ONE NIGHT. THAT WAY I CAN MAKE A COUPLE OF PHONE CALLS WHEN THE RATES ARE LOWER & I CAN REPLY TO ANY MAIL I RECEIVED.

I GOT SONGED FAIRLY WELL LAST NIGHT IN

9635

167

IN BRIEF BUT HEAVY RAINS, BUT I'M USED TO THE FRUSTRATION OF IT NOW. I'VE THE TARP UP AGAIN TONIGHT. I'M NEAR WALTER-BORO IN A CLUMP OF PINE TREES THAT, UNLIKE MOST PLACES NEAR HERE, AREN'T STRANGLED BY DENSE UNDERGROWTH.

11-5-85

60mi

HURRAY! IT DIDN'T RAIN LAST NIGHT. AND NOT ONLY THAT, IT'S BEEN A BEAUTIFUL SUNNY DAY - NOT A CLOUD IN THE SKY! THE ONLY BAD PARTS ARE HEADWINDS; THE COLD. I RODE IN FLANNEL SHIRT, GLOVES; PANTS NEARLY ALL DAY.

ONE AGAIN, I HAVEN'T SEEN ANYTHING OF INTEREST TODAY. I HIT ONE STRETCH ON HWY 278 THAT WAS 20 MILES OF THE STRAIGHTEST, FLATTEST ROAD YOU'LL EVER SEE, THAT WAS THE BIG EXCITEMENT FOR THE DAY.

I WAS HAPPY THAT I WAS ABLE TO CASH A \$200 MONEY ORDER AT ALLENDALE, SC TODAY. IT WAS A SMALL TOWN, THOUGH THE LARGEST

168

9715

I'LL BE IN FOR A FEW DAYS, & I WAS SURPRISED THEY HAD ENOUGH CASH.

THE COOL TEMPERATURES WERE A GREAT RELIEF LAST NIGHT. IT WAS FINALLY POSSIBLE TO BE BUNDLED UP IN MY SLEEPING BAG WITHOUT DRIPPING SWEAT.

IM IN GEORGIA NOW, I BELIEVE IT'S MY 25<sup>TH</sup> STATE SO FAR. I'M ABOUT FIVE MILES NORTH OF SYLVANIA, ONCE MORE CAMPING AMONG THE TREES. MY CAMPSPACES ALL SEEM TO LOOK ALIKE ANYMORE - I'M NOT SURE WHAT I'LL DO IF I HAVE TO FIND SOMETHING DIFFERENT.

11-6-85

80mi

ANOTHER BRIGHT, SUNSHINEY DAY! WOW! I FINALLY QUIT FARTIN' AROUND & MANAGED TO PUT TOGETHER SOME DECENT MILEAGE, THANKS TO THE ROLLING HILLS WHICH KEPT ME FROM GETTING BORED; AN ANONYMOUS CYCLIST WHO MADE THE MISTAKE OF BLOWING BY ME WITHOUT SAYING 'HOWDY'. I GOT TO CRANKING AS HARD I COULD; PASSED HIM

9715

168

(Said 'Howdy') ; I DIDN'T SLOW DOWN 'TIL HE WAS AT LEAST THREE MILES BEHIND ME ; I HAD DONE ABOUT 15 MILES IN AROUND FORTY MINUTES OR SO.

AFTER THAT, I JUST POKED AROUND ; TOOK MY TIME. RIGHT NOW I'M ONLY FIFTEEN MILES FROM SORRENCEY ; MY MAIL, SO IF IT'S ANOTHER CLEAR DAY TOMORROW I SHOULD BE THERE BY 9-9:30AM WHICH WILL LEAVE PLENTY OF TIME TO MAKE IT TO BRUNSWICK BY EVENING.

THIS NICE WEATHER IS BRINGING MY TAN BACK REAL FAST. I WAS FADED PRETTY FAST AFTER THE TIME OFF IN D.C. ; ALL THE RAIN IN THE PAST TWO WEEKS.

I CREATED QUITE A STIR IN SYLWANIA WHILE STOPPING AT AN IGA FOR BREAKFAST. THE CASHIER ~~WAS~~ ASKED WHERE I HAD CYCLED FROM ; I DIDN'T SEEM TOO IMPRESSED, BUT ONCE I LEFT SHE MUST HAVE TOLD EVERYONE IN THE STORE BECAUSE PEOPLE STARTED COMING OUT IN DROVES TO

169 9795

SEE FOR THEMSELVES.

11-7-85

80m

DAMN, WHAT A GREAT DAY! MORE BRIGHT SUNNY SKIES ; LOTS OF MAIL! AND IT'S GETTING WARMER, TOO.

I GOT LETTERS FROM LEAH, MAUREEN, & THE GALS AT WORK (THE LETTERS FROM WORK ARE DWINDLING DOWN TO THE "FAITHFUL FEW" THAT SAW ME OFF AT THE SPOT ON MY LAST DAY).

WHEN I PICKED UP MY MAIL THE CLERK WAS REAL EXCITED ; TOLD ME TO STOP IN AT THE JESUP NEWS-SENTINEL (OR SOMETHING LIKE THAT). I WAS A LITTLE STAND-OFFISH ABOUT SEEMING LIKE I WAS BEGGING FOR ATTENTION & PUBLICITY, BUT SINCE THE GUY WAS SO INSISTENT I DECIDED TO DO IT.

IT WASN'T ONE OF THE MOST ENJOYABLE OF INTERVIEWS, BUT YOU TAKE WHAT YOU GET. THE WOMAN SAID I DIDN'T LOOK LIKE A BIKER (SHE DIDN'T LOOK VERY CLOSELY AT MY LEGS!)! SHE ASKED ME ALL KINDS OF

9795 169

QUESTIONS I DIDN'T WRITE ANYTHING DOWN. I GOT THE FEELING IT'S ONLY GOING TO A PICTURE OF ME; A "CYCLIST PASSES THROUGH TOWN" CAPTION, BUT THAT'S OK. AT LEAST THE INTERVIEW ~~WAS~~ WAS SOMETHING DIFFERENT FOR A CHANGE.

I SAW MY FIRST LIVE ARMADILLO TODAY, WHICH WAS OCCASION ENOUGH TO TAKE MY FIRST PICTURES OF GEORGIA. I GOT WITHIN A COUPLE OF FEET OF THE LITTLE GUY; HE COULDN'T HAVE CARED LESS - HE JUST <sup>KEPT</sup> ~~KEPT~~ Rootin' Around in THE GRASS; LOOKIN' FOR BUGS.

I ARRIVED AT THE YOUTH HOSTEL NEAR BRUNSWICK, GA AROUND FIVE. IT'S GREAT! A COUPLE OF GEODESIC DOMES; A COUPLE OF TREE HOUSES. PLUS A POND; SWIMMIN' HOLE; PALM TREES - WHAT A BLAST! I MAY JUST HANG OUT HERE FOR A FEW DAYS.

I TOOK TIME TO CALL DOLY & JENNY (TO GET THEIR CORRECT ADDRESS) & MAUREEN

170 9795

SHE'S STILL HEMMIN' & HAWIN' ABOUT COMIN' TO FLORIDA, SO WE'LL SEE HOW THINGS STAND ONCE I GET THERE. I'LL HAVE TO SEND HOME SOME MONEY FOR THAT CALL, IT'LL BE SURE TO RAISE MOM'S EYEBROWS.

I'M STAYING WITH A GUY FROM COLUMBIA, ONE FROM ENGLAND, ANOTHER FROM AUSTRALIA, ONE FROM CANADA; A GIRL FROM D.C.. THERE'S A PRETTY FUN BUNCH. EARLIER WE TOOK TURNS "LEVITATING" EACH OTHER. (FOUR OF US) (ONE AT A TIME) ACTUALLY WE LIFTED EACH OTHER OVER OUR HEADS USING ONLY TWO FINGERS UNDER THEIR KNEES; ARMPITS.

11-8-85

NO MILES

I'M AT THE "HOSTEL IN THE TREES" IN BRUNSWICK FOR ONE MORE NIGHT. I HAD ORIGINALLY PLANNED ON STAYING, BUT AFTER LAST NIGHT WAS THINKING OF PUSHING ON.

LATE IN THE EVENING, KELLY, A GIRL FROM ATLANTA SHOWED UP AFTER WORKING AT A RESTAURANT IN TOWN. SHE'S SOMEWHAT TYPICAL OF "SOUTHERN GIRLS" THAT I'VE MET ON AIR FORCE BASES;

9795

670

ARMY POSTS: OBSESSED WITH HERSELF, PICKING  
& CHOOSING (OR DEFENDING) "OLD FASHIONED VALUES",  
(BUT ONLY THOSE THAT SUIT HER AT ANY GIVEN  
TIME), & ABSOLUTELY VIOLENT IF SHE FEELS SHE  
MAY HAVE BEEN INSULTED.

OF COURSE THAT'S WHAT HAPPENED LAST  
NIGHT. I OPENED MY BIG MOUTH & MADE A  
COMMENT THAT SHE THOUGHT WAS DIRECTED  
AT HER (I'D ONLY MET HER LESS THAN AN  
HOUR EARLIER) & SHIT! - THE FUR STARTED  
FLYING. SO TODAY I'M KEEPING A LOW  
PROFILE IN HOPES OF BEING ABLE TO RELAX FOR  
A WHILE & DUCKING THE "CURSE OF THE SOUTH"  
AT ALL COSTS.

I'M FINALLY GETTING SOME GOOD grub.  
I BOUGHT ENOUGH SALAD STUFF TO LAST AT  
LEAST TWO DAYS, PLUS SPAGHETTI & CHEESE,  
A FEW OTHER GOODIES. AT \$5/NIGHT I  
WOULDN'T MIND STAYIN' HERE FOR A FEW DAYS  
& RELAXING; EATIN' GOOD FOOD FOR A CHANGE.

11985

(NO MILES)

SO FAR IT'S BEEN A GOOD DAY; THINGS  
SHOULDN'T CHANGE AS EVENING WEARS ON.

PABLO, THE HOSTEL WARDEN (HE'S COLOMBIAN)  
PASSED AROUND SOME SUGAR CANE FOR EVERYONE  
TO TRY. IT WASN'T BAD IF YOU LIKE CHewing  
Gum, BUT A BIT TO PULPY, REALLY. AFTER YOU SUCK  
THE SUGAR OUT OF IT, IT TASTES LIKE YOU'RE  
SUCKING ON A TREE.

A LOCAL GUY CAME BY & DONATED A SKINNED &  
DRESSED 5 1/2' RATTLESNAKE (EASTERN DIAMONDBACK  
TO BE PRECISE) THAT HOPEFULLY WE WILL BARBECUE  
TONIGHT. I SAY HOPEFULLY BECAUSE NOT EVERYONE  
IS VERY ENTHUSIASTIC ABOUT DOING SO, SO PLANS  
MAY FAIL THROUGH.

NOT MUCH ELSE HAPPENED TODAY, EXCEPT I  
GAVE GREGORY (AN AUSTRALIAN TURNED CANADIAN)  
A HAND BLEEDING HIS BRAKES, BUT THAT DIDN'T  
LAST LONG AS HE BROKE A BRAKE HOSE NIPPLE  
SHORTLY AFTER HE STARTED.

THE ONLY THING WORTH MENTIONING THIS EVENING:

9835

172

WAS THAT I MET TWO GIRLS FROM SAVANNAH, HELEN & ROSEANN, THAT MADE ME THINK TWICE ABOUT THE WAY I WAS BEGINNING TO STEREO-TYPE SOUTHERN WOMEN. THEY WERE INCREDIBLY NICE; I DIDN'T SEEEM ANYTHING LIKE KELLY, WHO PISSED ME OFF A COUPLE OF DAYS AGO. IT PAYS TO KEEP AN OPEN MIND.

11-10-85

40mi

I THOUGHT I WAS GOING TO END UP STAYING AT THE HOSTEL ONE MORE NIGHT, BUT ABOUT MID-MORNING IT STARTED TO SEEM AS THOUGH MOVING ON WAS THE THING TO DO.

I WISH I HAD STUCK AROUND THE HOSTEL AN HOUR OR TWO LONGER THAN I DID. BY LEAVING WHEN I DID I MANAGED TO END UP JUST IN SIDE THE FLORIDA BORDER WHEN IT WAS TIME TO SET UP CAMP - WHAT A BUMMER.

I STOPPED AT A COUPLE OF PLACES & WAS ALMOST MUGGED BY VIOLENT MOSQUITOES. I FINALLY PUT ON SOME INSECT REPELLENT & SNAPPED MY BIVY & SLEEPING

173 9900

BAG OUT AS QUICK AS POSSIBLE & DANE IN. OF COURSE NOW I'M BEING BITTEN OCCASSIONALLY THROUGH THE BIVY (IT'S TOO HOT TO BE INSIDE THE SLEEPING BAG); I'VE DISCOVERED THAT I NEED TO BE ON THE LOOKOUT FOR TICKS AS I FOUND ONE ON MY LEG WHICH BOUGHT A TICKET TO HELL BEFORE HE DUG INTO ME.

11-11-85

65mi

THERE'S NO DOUBT I'M IN FLORIDA. IT WAS 70° A 9:00 & 80° BY 10:00; HOPEFULLY THE CLOUDS ROLLING OFF OF THE OCEAN WILL KEEP IT FROM GETTING ANY HOTTER.

I HAD A PRETTY UNCOMFORTABLE NIGHT IN MY BODY BAG. I MANAGED TO SWEAT OFF ALL MY BUG REPELLENT, SO I WAS VISCIOUSLY ATTACKED THE MOMENT THAT I CLAMBERED OUT INTO THE MORNING FOG.

I'LL TRY TO FIND JEAN-YVES & DIANE (A COUPLE FROM QUÉBEC THAT I MET IN D.C.) & STAY WITH THEM AT ANASTASIA STATE PARK IN ST. AUGUSTINE WHERE HOPEFULLY THE

9900

173

MOSQUITOES ARE UNDER CONTROL.

A LUCKY AFTERNOON. I HAVEN'T FOUND JEAN-YVES, DIANE, BUT WHILE SIGHTSEEING AT CASTILLO DE SAN MARCOS IN ST AUGUSTINE I MET STAN THOMPSON WHO HAS INVITED ME TO HAVE DINNER & CAMP OUT IN HIS FRONT YARD.

STAN IS 56 & HAS DONE A BIT OF CYCLING & A LOT OF TRAVELING. <sup>THE OTHER</sup> NIGHT GERRY GEORGE, ONE OF THE GUYS AT THE HOSTEL, HAD TOLD ME THAT I WOULD BE ILL ADVISED TO TRAVEL THROUGH INDIA, THOUGH HE'S NEVER DONE IT HIMSELF (THOUGH HE ~~DOES~~ HAS BEEN TO NEPAL). NOW STAN IS TELLING ME WHAT HE'S GOTTEN FROM SOME OF THE BOOKS HE'S READ, THAT THE INDIANS WOULD BE AMAZED TO SEE ME & THE ONE PROBLEM I MIGHT HAVE WOULD BE ANSWERING ALL THE QUESTIONS I WOULD BE ASKED. HE CLAIMED THAT I WOULD MOST OFTEN BE ASKED HOW OLD I AM, WHICH IS PRETTY COOL.

CASITLLO SAN MARCOS WAS PRETTY NEAT. IT

WAS BUILT IN 1565 BY THE SPANISH & IS THE OLDEST MASONRY FORT IN THE U.S. IT'S MADE OUT OF COQUINA - A TYPE OF SEDIMENTARY ROCK MADE OF TINY SEASHELLS.

RUNNING INTO STAN HAS TURNED OUT TO BE A GOOD THING. HE HAS WARNED ME TO WATCH OUT FOR FIRE ANTS, WHICH HAVE BEEN IMPORTED FROM SOUTH AMERICA & WILL SWARM ALL OVER A PERSON CAUSING SEVERE DISCOMFORT AT THE VERY LEAST. QUITE OFTEN I'VE CAMPED TOO CLOSE TO ANT HILLS WITHOUT ANY CONCERN BECAUSE THEY USUALLY LEAVE YOU ALONE.

HE WAS THOUGHTFUL ENOUGH TO SET UP HIS A-FRAME MOUNTAIN TENT IN HIS BACKYARD AFTER I TOLD HIM OF ALL THE PROBLEMS I'D HAD WITH WITH MY BIVY. IT LOOKS ALMOST AS GOOD AS HAVING A HOTEL ROOM.

I ALSO MET HIS WIFE, DELORES, & DAUGHTER, JANE, & HAD DINNER WITH THEM: A RICE & CHEESE DISH WITH SALAD & GREEN BEANS WITH SOME GREAT PEPPERMINT TEA AFTERWARDS.

9955 17A  
(11-12-85) 55m

ANOTHER HOT, MOSTLY SUNNY DAY - 80°+!  
I GOT A LAZY START TODAY - 12:00 PM,  
DUE TO TALKING FOR QUITE A WHILE WITH  
STAN & DOLORES & WITH ANOTHER FELLOW I  
MET AT THE CASTILLO.

I STOPPED AT FT. MATANZAS (SPANISH  
FOR SLAUGHTERS, DUE TO THE FATE OF THE  
FRENCH THERE) WHICH WAS LITTLE MORE THAN A  
WATCHTOWER FOR GUARDING ONE OF THE INLETS  
LEADING TO CASTILLO DE SAN MARCOS.

OTHER THAN THAT, IT WAS A TYPICAL DAY  
OF BORING BEACH ROADS - MILES OF HOTELS &  
RESTAURANTS & TOURIST TRAPS.

IVE BEEN TOLD THAT FLORIDA DRIVERS ARE  
PRETTY BAD, BUT SO FAR THEY HAVEN'T BEEN  
ANY WORSE THAN IN OTHER STATES. THEY DO  
DRIVE A BIT CLOSE THOUGH.

IM STAYING AT THE HOSTEL IN DAYTONA  
BEACH IN SPITE OF THE \$9.50/NIGHT COST.  
SO FAR IT'S NOT TOO BAD SINCE IVE GOT AIR  
CONDITIONING, COLOR TV, & IM ALONE.

175 (10030)

A JAPANESE MOTORCYCLIST JUST CAME  
IN; AFTER TALKING FOR A FEW MINUTES GAVE ME  
A "HA-CHI-MAKI(?) OR JAPANESE HEADBAND  
WITH "MUST VICTORY" EMBLAZONED ON IT IN  
JAPANESE. HIS NAME IS 'TEO'; HAS SPENT  
TWO MONTHS IN THE STATES & PLANS ON CIR-  
CUMNAVIGATING THE COUNTRY & WILL RETURN  
HOME IN DECEMBER. I ~~COULD~~ DIDN'T QUITE  
CATCH HIS REAL NAME, ~~BECAUSE~~ SINCE  
HE'S LEARNED  
TO MAKE IT EASY ON US AMERICANS BY USING  
A NICKNAME.

(11-13-85) 75mi

I GAVE TEO GRANDMA'S ADDRESS LAST  
NIGHT IN HOPES THAT HE WOULD STOP BY AFTER  
HE VISITS KEY WEST. ~~BECAUSE~~

IT'S BEEN A GOOD DAY; IT SEEMS AS THOUGH  
QUITE A LOT HAS HAPPENED.

WHILE CYCLING THROUGH ALEXANDRA, AN OLD  
MAN STOPPED ME ASKED IF I'D BE INTERESTED  
IN A JOB LOOKING AFTER HIS KENNELS WHICH  
PAID Room & Board. I ACTUALLY CONSIDERED

10030 175

IT FOR A MOMENT, BUT DECIDED THAT PEOPLE  
WERE EXPECTING ME ; I THOUGHT IT BEST TO  
PASS ON. BUT I TOOK DOWN HIS ADDRESS ;  
AGREED TO PASS IT ON IF I FOUND SOMEONE  
INTERESTED.

A COUPLE HOURS DOWN THE ROAD I RAN INTO  
A FELLOW NAMED DAVE FROM ORLANDO WHO WAS  
PEPPING TO JACKSONVILLE. HE ONLY HAD ONE  
LEG DUE TO BEING HIT BY A TRAIN LAST YEAR  
; WAS GOING THERE TO VISIT AN AUNT ; LOOK  
FOR WORK BECAUSE NOBODY WOULD HIRE HIM  
IN ORLANDO. I GAVE HIM THE ADDRESS IN  
ALLANDALE, BUT I'M NOT SURE IF HE WAS VERY  
INTERESTED IN IT.

I HAD MY SEVENTH FLAT ; WENT OVER  
10,000 MILES AT OSTEEN TODAY - TWO  
MILESTONES AT ONCE!

I'M STAYING AT WHAT IS SUPPOSED TO BE  
A YOUTH HOSTEL IN ORLANDO TONIGHT, THOUGH  
IT'S ACTUALLY THE "FLORIDA SPA". THEY DIDN'T  
HAVE ANY DORM ROOMS AVAILABLE, SO I'M  
SLEEPING IN A PRIVATE ROOM ; PAYING \$14

176 10030

NIGHT - OUCH! AT LEAST IT'S VERY CONVENIENT  
TO GET TO EPCOT FROM HERE ; SO IS PROBABLY  
WORTH THE PRICE. IT'S RUN BY AN ISRAELI  
COUPLE. SHE'S REAL SWEET ; IS SO HELPFUL  
THAT SHE'S ALMOST ANNOYING ; HE IS VERY NICE  
; COMPLIMENTED ME BY SAYING THAT HE RESPECTS  
ME FOR WHAT I AM DOING.

THERE ARE TWO OTHER TRAVELLERS HERE  
(THE OTHER PEOPLE ARE SORT OF SEMI-PERMANENT)  
- EDNA FROM ISRAEL ; STEVE FROM LONDON.  
STEVE IS LEAVING TOMORROW ; EDNA IS GOING TO  
EPCOT ; SO ILL TRY TO SEE IT WITH HER IF  
THAT SEEMS REASONABLE.

11-14-85

NO MILES

I DON'T KNOW IF THERE'S MUCH TO WRITE  
ABOUT TODAY, BUT I HAD A GREAT TIME!

I TRIED NOT TO NOTICE WHEN I PAID \$9<sup>50</sup>  
FOR A DAY AT EPCOT - A PRICE I THOUGHT WAS  
TOO STEEP, BUT IT WAS WORTH IT.

EDNA (FROM NEAR TEL AVIV) ; I SPENT THE  
DAY TOGETHER ; MANAGED TO SEE ALL OF  
FUTUREWORLD ; A LOT OF THE HIGHLIGHTS

10145

177

OF WORLD SHOWCASE BEFORE HAVING TO CATCH THE BUS BACK HOME. WE ORIGINALLY THOUGHT THAT WE LEFT AT 8:30 FROM 8:30 TO 5:00 WAS TOO LONG, BUT LATER WE'D HAVE LIKED TO STAY FOR THE REST OF THE EVENING AS WELL.

THERE WAS TOO MUCH THERE TO DESCRIBE IT ALL, BUT ~~ANYWAY~~ THE MAIN EXHIBITS IN FUTUREWORLD CONSISTED OF A RIDE THROUGH ANIMATED SCENES; PAST DIFFERENT VIDEO SCENES; A FEW ALSO HAD MOVIES; 'HAND-ON' EXHIBITS OF COMPUTER GAMES, ETC...

IN WORLDSHOWCASE THERE WERE ONE OR TWO COUNTRIES WITH 'FUTUREWORLD-TYPE' EXHIBITS, BUT THE MAIN ATTRACTIONS WERE THE SIDEWALK PERFORMERS - ACROBATS, MUSICIANS, ETC...

11-15-85

115ml

THINGS DIDN'T HAPPEN THE WAY I PLANNED TODAY, BUT AT LEAST I MADE IT TO GRANDMA'S ~~IN ONE PIECE~~.

I ORIGINALLY THOUGHT OF RIDING 95 MILES TO THE M'INTOSH'S HOUSE IN TAMPA, BUT WHEN I CALLED THEY WEREN'T HOME, SO I DECIDED TO

POSITION TO GRANDMA'S.

ON THE WAY THERE I RAN INTO A CAR DRIVEN BY A BLACK WOMEN. SHE WAS PULLING OUT OF A SHOPPING CENTER; DIDN'T EVEN LOOK MY WAY WHEN SHE PULLED OUT. I YELLED "HEY! HEY! HEY!" WHICH HAS ALWAYS BEEN ENOUGH TO ATTRACT ATTENTION, BUT IT DIDN'T WORK TODAY. I TRIED TO STOP; ENDED UP SNAGGING HER REAR BUMPER WITH MY LEFT FRONT PANNIER.

AT FIRST I WAS JUST RELIEVED THAT I WASN'T HURT, BUT THEN I REALIZED MY PANNIER HADN'T FADED SO WELL. IT LOOKED AS THOUGH ONE OF THE HOOKS HAD BEEN SHEARED HALFWAY OFF.

SHE WAS STUCK IN TRAFFIC ACROSS THE STREET SO I PEDALED OVER TO FIND OUT WHAT SHE WAS GOING TO DO ABOUT THE DAMAGE. SHE SAID I HIT HER; IT WAS MY FAULT! I WAS LIVID! ENRAGED! FIT TO BE TIED! I TOLD HER SHE PULLED OUT IN FRONT OF ME; EXPECTED HER TO PAY; SHE KEPT SAYING "WHAT DO

178

184

YOU WANT ME TO DO?" THE SHE JUST  
DROVE OFF INTO THE TRAFFIC.

I GOT HER LICENSE PLATE NUMBER &  
PULLED OFF TO SURVEY THE DAMAGE. FOUND THE  
ALUMINUM STIFFENER WAS BENT & THE HOCK  
WAS O.K., SO I WAS ABLE TO REPAIR IT IM-  
MEDIATELY.

ON THE REMAINDER OF MY RIDE THROUGH  
ST. PETERSBURG I CAME CLOSE TO BEING HIT TWO  
MORE TIMES, SO STAYING IN ST. PETERSBURG  
LONGER SEEMS A GOOD IDEA.

ANYWAY, IT WAS GREAT TO SEE GRANDMA  
& HOW SHE'S BEEN LATELY & TO MEET HER FRIEND,  
JEAN.

#### WEEK OF 11-16 TO 11-22

I'VE DECIDED TO CONSOLIDATE MY FIRST  
WEEK IN ST. PETERSBURG INTO ONE ENTRY, MAINLY  
BECAUSE VERY LITTLE HAPPENED MY FIRST FEW DAYS  
IN TOWN.

MAINLY IT'S BEEN A WEEK OF CLEANING OUT  
MY GEAR & GETTING REFITTED & REORGANIZED  
SO THAT WHENEVER I DECIDE TO LEAVE I

CAN DO SO QUICKLY & EASILY.

WHEN I FIRST GOT INTO TOWN I STARTED  
COMBING THROUGH THE WANT ADS TO FIND OUT  
WHAT THE EMPLOYMENT PICTURE WAS LIKE  
AROUND HERE & FOUND THAT UPS WAS HIRING  
TEMPORARY CHRISTMAS HELP. I APPLIED ON  
WEDNESDAY & MADE IT TO THE SECOND STEP OF  
THE EMPLOYMENT PROCESS, A SEMINAR TO BE  
HELD ON THE 26th. THERE I WILL BE TESTED  
ON MATERIAL GIVEN TO ME AT THE FIRST INTER-  
VIEW & ~~BASED~~ THE AMOUNT OF HOURS I RECEIVE  
WILL BE BASED ON HOW WELL I DO IN RELATION  
TO THE OTHER APPLICANTS - I MAY WORK ALL  
THROUGH DECEMBER OR JUST A DAY OR TWO  
BEFORE CHRISTMAS.

IVE BEEN WRITING & CALLING MAUREEN OFTEN  
IN HOPES SHE'LL COME LIVE WITH ME FOR A WHILE  
& SHE'S DECIDED THAT SHE WILL, BUT I WON'T KNOW  
WHEN SHE'S COMING DOWN UNTIL SHE CALLS ON THE  
24th OR 26th.

I HAVEN'T MET ANYONE MY OWN AGE IN  
TOWN SO FAR, BUT HOPEFULLY THAT WILL CHANGE

185

ONCE I GET TOGETHER WITH THE ST. PETE BIKE CLUB.

11-23-85

I GOT UP EARLY TO MEET WITH DAN BATES, THE PRESIDENT OF THE ST. PETE BIKE CLUB. I HAD ORIGINALLY PLANNED TO RIDE WITH THEM, BUT LAST NIGHT I CHANGED MY CHAIN & REAR DERAILLEUR & WAS UNABLE TO REPLACE MY FREEWHEEL AS WELL, WHICH CAUSED MY CHAIN TO KEEP SLIPPING. SO I HAD TO GET THAT FIXED BEFORE GOING ANYWHERE & THEIR RIDE STARTED BEFORE ANY BIKE SHOPS OPENED.

AFTER REPLACING MY FREEWHEEL I DECIDED TO GO EXPLORE ST. PETE & SEE WHAT ELSE IS HERE BESIDES THE DOWNTOWN AREA. I HEADED TOWARD FT. DESOTO PARK & RAN INTO A SMALL GROUP OF CYCLISTS GOING THE SAME DIRECTION. ONE GUY, RICK TAMULONIS, SEEMS TO BE OF ABOUT THE SAME ABILITY AS I AM & HE WANT TO GET TOGETHER TO RIDE ON WEEKNIGHTS WHICH SOUNDS LIKE A GOOD IDEA. HE TOURS A BIT ALSO & IS PLANNING ON GOING TO EUROPE NEXT YEAR.

186

11-24-85

I WAS OUT THE DOOR BY 6:30AM TO MEET DAN BATES FOR A RIDE TO TARPON SPRINGS TO PARTICIPATE IN A TIMED METRIC CENTURY (100 KILOMETERS) HELD BY TAMPA BAY BIKE SPORT, THE LOCAL USCF CYCLING CLUB.

IT WAS THE FIRST RACE I'VE EVER PARTICIPATED IN & I HAD A GREAT TIME. TOWARDS THE END I GOT PRETTY TIRED OF THE WAY A LOT OF PEOPLE WERE RIDING ERRATICALLY. ONE GUY WAS WOBBLING ALL OVER THE PLACE & COULDN'T HOLD HIS LINE; ONE GIRL WOULD SPIN A WHILE, COAST A WHILE INSTEAD OF SPINNING CONTINUOUSLY LIKE SHE WAS SUPPOSED TO. UNFORTUNATELY THE PACK WE'RE RIDING IN WAS JUST TOO LARGE - ONE GUY WAS ALWAYS SHOUTING TO KEEP US TOGETHER - ABOUT TWENTY OF US - WHEN WE SHOULD HAVE BROKE INTO SMALLER GROUPS WHEN WE HAD THE CHANCE.

I MADE A FEW MISTAKES THAT I WAS AWARE OF (HITTING MY PEDAL ON A CORNER, MISSING A SHIFT WHILE LEADING THE PACK) & PROBABLY A

126

FEW MISTAKES I WASN'T AWARE OF, TOO. BUT I THINK I DID O.K. FOR MY FIRST TIME OUT / I LEARNED A LOT. RIGHT NOW I WISH I HAD A LIGHTER BIKE WITH LESS ROLLING RESISTANCE SO I COULD RIDE WITH THE FASTER RIDERS.

I WAS IN HIGH GEAR ON MY BIKE MOST OF THE DAY / I STILL KEPT UP, BUT WITH A BETTER MACHINE I WOULD HAVE BEEN PUSHING THE PACK A LOT HARDER WHEN IT WAS MY TURN IN FRONT.

STILL, I FINISHED IN 3:01:58 (20.4 mph) / I WOULD HAVE FINISHED IN UNDER 3 HOURS IF THERE HAD BEEN A FEW LESS STOPLIGHTS ON THE COURSE.

MAUREEN CALLED TONIGHT / SAID SHE'D BE HERE BY DEC. 12<sup>th</sup> WHICH IS FANTASTIC NEWS. THERE WAS A CHANCE SHE WOULDN'T GET HERE 'TIL AROUND THE FIRST OF THE YEAR.

NOW I NEED TO FIND AN APARTMENT REAL QUICK, BUT I DON'T KNOW IF I SHOULD GET A 'PERMANENT' PLACE OR NOT AS SHE MAY WANT TO ATTEND USF OR UT IN TAMPA.

12-14-85

126

SINCE I LAST WROTE IN THIS JOURNAL QUITE A LOT HAS HAPPENED / I REALLY SHOULD HAVE BEEN KEEPING UP TO DATE, BUT I HAVEN'T, SO I'LL TRY TO BRIEFLY RECAP EVENTS NOW / MAKE AN ATTEMPT AT STAYING CURRENT IN THE FUTURE.

NOT A LOT HAPPENED BEFORE THE FIRST OF THE MONTH. GRANDMA / I WERE INVITED TO HAVE THANKSGIVING DINNER WITH THE LOCAL PRESIDENT (OR SOME SUCH TITLE) OF THE MORMON CHURCH. OTHER THAN THAT I SPENT A GOOD DEAL OF TIME LOOKING FOR A PLACE TO STAY BEFORE GRANDMA REALLY STARTED TO GET ON MY NERVES. SHE'S SWEET / I LOVE HER, BUT WE'RE ON DIFFERENT WAVELENGTHS / THAT PLUS THAT FACT THAT SHE'S HARD OF HEARING MADE COMMUNICATIONS / THE PROSPECT FOR THINGS TO GET BETTER, ALMOST IMPOSSIBLE.

THE PLACES I LOOKED AT WERE DUMPS OR JUST MADE ME FEEL UNCOMFORTABLE, MAINLY BECAUSE I WAS CONSIDERING TRYING TO FIND A PLACE TO RENT BY THE WEEK IN ORDER TO AVOID THE HASSLES OF SECURITY DEPOSITS, ETC...

I FOUND A PLACE IMMEDIATELY ONCE I DECIDED TO

TAKE A CHANCE ON RENTING BY THE MONTH. I'M LIVING IN AN EFFICIENCY IN THE REAR OF A HOUSE AT 1055R 15TH AVENUE. I'M PAYING \$195/mo. + ELECTRICITY. IT'S VERY SMALL, BUT VERY CHEERFUL ALSO.

ON THE 26TH I ATTENDED A SEMINAR/ORIENTATION FOR UNITED PARCEL SERVICE & BECAME OFFICIALLY EMPLOYED. I PICKED UP MY UNIFORM, A PAIR OF COVERALLS, ON 12/3. I FORGOT THAT WHEN I WENT IN I WOULD BE INTERVIEWED AGAIN, SO I DIDN'T MAKE A GREAT IMPRESSION WHEN THAT HAPPENED. I COULDN'T HELP FEELING AS THOUGH MY NAME WAS GOING TO BE SHUFFLED TO THE BOTTOM OF THE LIST AFTER THE INTERVIEW, BUT I STILL WAITED FOR THEM TO CALL ME AT GRANDMA'S EVERY DAY FROM 7AM TO 9AM. FINALLY I GOT TIRED OF WAITING & BEGAN TO WORRY ABOUT SPENDING TOO MUCH MONEY + NOT MAKING ANY, & SO I APPLIED TO WORK WITH MANPOWER TEMPORARY SERVICES STARTING 12/13.

ON THE 13TH I WAS TOLD TO REPORT FOR WORK AT SILVER OPTICAL FOR MANPOWER.

AFTER GETTING LOST BY GOING TO PARK BLVD INSTEAD OF PARK ST I ARRIVED AT WORK ON TIME, ONLY TO FIND THAT ONE OF THE GIRLS AT THE OFFICE MESSED UP THE DATES - IT WASN'T SUPPOSED TO BE 'TIL NEXT WEEK. SO I WENT HOME TO FIND THAT UPS FINALLY CALLED. OH, WELL! OF COURSE MAUREEN ARRIVED ON THE 12TH & THINGS HAVE BEEN PRETTY TENTATIVE. I'M SURE THAT'S DUE TO NOT KNOWING WHAT WE EXPECT & WANT FROM EACH OTHER. THE TENSION OF THE FIRST FEW DAYS FINALLY MANIFESTED ITSELF TODAY & WE'VE AGREED THAT THE BEST WAY TO ASSURE THAT WE ENJOY OUR TIME TOGETHER IS TO PLAN ON HER GOING BACK TO CHICAGO ON 1/8 & FOR ME TO PLAN ON MOVING OUT OF THE EFFICIENCY BY 1/5. THAT WAY I'LL BE ABLE TO MECH A PLACE TO STAY BY POSSIBLY CAMPING IN THE BACK YARD OF ONE OF THE ACQUAINTANCES I'VE MADE. THAT WAY I CAN SAVE MONEY WHILE WORKING AT MANPOWER EVEN IF I ONLY WORK A FEW DAYS A WEEK. IN FACT IF I STAY IN FLORIDA 'TIL MARCH,

1208  
I'LL PROBABLY BE ABLE TO RECOVER MOST.  
IF NOT ALL OF THE MONEY I'VE SPENT WHILE  
STAYING IN FLORIDA.

1216-85

NO BIG NEWS TO REPORT. I REPORTED TO  
MY FIRST JOB FOR MANPOWER ON THE 14th.  
I WAS WORKING THE GRAVEYARD SHIFT  
ASSEMBLING THE SUNDAY PAPER

I WAS ON A MACHINE THAT STUFFED  
INSERTS INTO THE 'MAINS' OR MAIN PART OF  
THE PAPER. I WOULD HAVE A PALLET OF  
'MAINS' BROUGHT TO ME; I WOULD HAVE  
TO GRAB A HANDFUL AT A TIME; SET THEM  
ON A TABLE WITH THE FOLDS ARRANGED  
A CERTAIN WAY; THEN ANOTHER GUY WOULD  
PICK THEM UP, SQUARE THEM OFF, & FEED  
THEM INTO A MACHINE (WHICH IS WHY WE  
WERE CALLED FEEDERS).

WHEN OUR MACHINE WAS SHUT DOWN  
WHEN WE HAD ASSEMBLED ENOUGH MAINS, WE  
WOULD GO TO THE STUFFING TABLES & STUFF  
THE ARTS/ENTERTAINMENT SECTIONS (WHICH WERE

ALSO CRAMMED WITH INSERTS) INTO THE  
MAINS; THEN THE PAPERS WERE BOUNDLED  
& SHIPPED OUT.

1216-85  
ON SUNDAY MAUREEN; I  
WENT TO SEE 'WHITE NIGHTS'. WE MADE  
IT IN SPITE OF MISREADING THE BUS  
SCHEDULE (NOT REALIZING IT HAD A SEPARATE  
SUNDAY SCHEDULE). WHAT A GREAT MOVIE!  
IT MADE ME WISH I COULD DANCE; THAT  
I WAS ABOVE THE ARCTIC CIRCLE.

ON MONDAY (TODAY) I WORKED AT  
PALMS OF PASADENA HOSPITAL PURGING  
THEIR X-RAY FILES: PULLING THE FILM OUT  
OF THE JACKETS SO THAT IT COULD BE  
RECYCLED TO EXTRACT THE SILVER IT  
CONTAINS. IT WAS SORT OF NICE TO WORK  
IN A HOSPITAL AGAIN, ESPECIALLY SINCE  
IT WAS VERY SIMILAR IN MANY RESPECTS TO  
VALLEY: DECOR, SIGNS, PEOPLE, NEIGHBOR-HOOD,  
ETC. . . .

I DON'T KNOW HOW MUCH LONGER THAT  
MAUREEN WILL BE STAYING WITH ME, THOUGH I

SENSE NOT VERY LONG. I'M NEARLY CONSTANTLY AWARE THAT COMMUNICATIONS ARE FALLING APART & YET I CAN'T BRING MYSELF TO DO ANYTHING ABOUT IT. I TRY TO FIGURE OUT WHERE THINGS HAVE GONE WRONG & EVEN WITH JUST A SHORT TIME PASSED, THINGS SEEM BLURRY & NO SIGNIFICANT EVENT STANDS OUT AS "THE CAUSE."

A COUPLE OF NIGHTS AGO MAUREEN HAD SOME THINGS ON HER MIND THAT SHE COULDN'T EXPRESS TO ME; PERHAPS (WHO CAN BE SURE) THAT WAS A QUE TO MY SUBCONSCIOUS TO START WITHHOLDING INFORMATION.

I FEEL NOW THAT WHAT I WANT IS A PLATONIC RELATIONSHIP, PERHAPS BECAUSE IT'S THE ONLY WAY THINGS CAN BE TOTALLY HONEST. THAT SOCIETY'S VIEWS OF SEX ARE STILL A LEASH AROUND EVERYONE'S NECK; IT ENCOURAGES PLAYING GAMES WITH SUCH TITLES AS: APPEARANCES, VALUES, ETC... PISS ON IT! IF YOU CAN HAVE HONEST SEX THERE'S NO POINT IN HAVING IT AT ALL.

I DO WANT ~~MAUREEN~~ MAUREEN TO STICK

AROUND FOR AS LONG AS SHE LIKES (EVEN LONGER), BUT I DON'T THINK I WANT TO TELL HER THAT; I'M REALLY AFRAID TO EVEN ASK MYSELF WHY I THINK THAT WAY.

I REALLY DO ENJOY HAVING HER AROUND; I LOVE WATCHING HER AROUND OTHER PEOPLE BECAUSE I FEEL I LEARN A LOT BY THE WAY SHE THINKS & HANDLES HERSELF. I WONDER IF I FLATTER MYSELF BY THINKING THAT POSSIBLY A REASON THAT THERE IS A LOT OF TENSION IS DUE TO US BOTH HAVING STRONG PERSONALITIES: HERS IS LIKE A BRICK WALL IN THAT IT'S <sup>IT IS</sup> VERY CONSISTENT & MINE IS LIKE A WILLOW TREE: A LOT OF GIVE, BUT I EVENTUALLY SNAP BACK TO MY ORIGINAL POSITION.

I'M TOTALLY CONFUSED ABOUT MAUREEN'S CONCEPTION OF WHAT OUR RELATIONSHIP IS OR SHOULD BE; THAT PROBABLY IS WHAT'S REALLY EATING AT ME. I DON'T

209

KNOW IF SHE DOESN'T LIKE ME ALL THAT MUCH (I THOUGHT SHE DID) OR IF SHE THINKS THAT MY EFFORTS TO MAKE HER WELCOME SUGGESTED TOO MUCH SERIOUSNESS ON MY PART OR WHAT. I KNOW THAT WHAT I ENVISIONED WHEN SHE CAME HERE WAS THAT WE HAD SOMEWHERE BETWEEN NOW ; MID-APRIL TO JUST RELAX ; ENJOY EACH OTHER TO THE FULLEST EXTENT IN ORDER TO SEE IF WE HAD ANY TRULY SPECIAL IMPORTANCE TO EACH OTHER ; TO TRY TO DEFINE THAT IN TERMS OF HAD IT AFFECTED OUR FUTURE, IF IT DID. SO MUCH FOR DAY DREAMS & GOOD WISHES.

(12-17-85)

I'M FINALLY DISGUSTED WITH MAUREEN. I STARTED THE DAY WAKING UP LATE FOR WORK AS A RESULT OF MAUREEN RESETTING MY ALARM ; MY NOT CHECKING IT. OF COURSE THAT'S NOT WHY I'M DISGUSTED, IT JUST SERVED AS A CATALYST FOR MY THOUGHTS TO EVOLVE TO THAT STATE.

WHAT REALLY INFURIATES ME IS THE WAY

THAT SHE'S SO FUCKING NON-CHALANT ABOUT ANY PROBLEMS I PERCEIVE BETWEEN US. SHE'S LIKE SOME GOD DAMN FREUDIAN IMPLYING WITH HER INDIFFERENCE THAT THEIR MY PROBLEMS ; I SHOULD WORK THEM OUT MYSELF. I'M SURE SHE'D HAVE A STROKE IF THE THOUGHT EVER OCCURRED TO HER THAT POSSIBLY SHE COULD MAKE SOME EFFORT TO MAKE THINGS BETTER. INSTEAD ~~TO~~ ALL I GET IS A LOAD SHIT LIKE : "MAYBE I COULD LEAVE SOONER" ; "I WONDER IF I CAN GET AMTRAK TO CHANGE MY TICKET". SHE MIGHT AS WELL SAY "FUCK OFF ; DIE OR ~~TO~~ KISS MY ASS; IT'S YOUR CHOICE."

IT TOTALLY AMAZES ME HOW, AFTER A WEEK TOGETHER CONSTANTLY IN D.C. THAT I DIDN'T SEE HOW WHEN I SAW WHITE, SHE SAW BLACK ; VICE VERSA. I THINK THAT (LIKE AN IDIOT WITH GOLD MUSH STRAINED THROUGH A SIEVE FOR BRAINS) I ALWAYS BEND TOO MUCH TO ACCOMMODATE OTHER PEOPLE; TO KEEP THINGS ROSY ; THEN END UP RESENTING IT WHEN I DON'T SENSE ANY RECIPROCALITY. WHEN THE

HELL AM I GOING TO LEARN TO BE A BIT  
MORE HARD-ASSED? WHEN WILL I DISCOVER  
SOMETHING ABOUT MYSELF THAT OTHER PEOPLE  
WANT & USE IT TO DEVELOP A "TAKE ME  
OR LEAVE ME" ATTITUDE TOWARD PEOPLE INSTEAD  
OF ALLOWING MYSELF TO CONFORM TO THEIR  
IDEA OF WHO THEY ARE LOOKING FOR?

FOR ALL THE THOUGHTS I HAD BEFORE MAUREEN  
ARRIVED OF WHAT TO DO TO KEEP THINGS RUNNING  
SMOOTHLY, IT'S DISHEARTENING TO THINK THAT IT  
DIDN'T EVEN GET US COMPLETELY THROUGH THE  
FIRST DAY. I SUSPECT A STRONG DOSE OF  
MOTHERLY ADVICE TO TRAVEL BY, WHICH IS FINE,  
BUT IT LEFT ME IN DREAMLAND & HER IN  
SOMETHING MUCH CLOSER TO REALITY. I WAS  
STILL THINKING THE ROSY THOUGHTS OF THE  
PAST TWO MONTHS; READY TO CHARGE AHEAD;  
SHE WAS BRIMMING OVER WITH SUSPICIONS &  
WARNINGS; HAD GEARED WAY DOWN AS THOUGH  
SHE WAS RIDING ON AN ICY ROAD WITH BALO TIRES.  
THE GOOD NEWS IS THAT I START WORK AT  
UPS TOMORROW.

12-19-85

218

I'M WORKING WITH JIMMY WOODS AT UPS & I'VE  
PUT IN QUITE FEW HOURS THE PAST FEW DAYS:  
14 HRS ON WEDNESDAY & 11 HRS ON THURSDAY.  
THE MAUREEN ROLLER COASTER CONTINUES:  
TONIGHT SHE LEFT A NOTE THAT SHE'D BE  
HOME BY 9:00; CAME IN AT 2:30 AFTER I  
HAD ALREADY CALLED THE POLICE & SEVERAL  
HOSPITALS.

SHE APLOGIZED, SAID SHE WAS HARSH,  
WE GOT A BIT HEATED UP; THEN SHE DECIDED  
TO GO TO SLEEP. NOTHING LIKE HAVING  
YOUR SLEEP FUCKED UP FOR ~~■~~ NOTHING  
WHEN YOU'RE WORKING YOUR ASS OFF FOR  
AS MANY HOURS AS I DO WITH SORE MUSCLES  
THAT PROBABLY WON'T RECOVER TIL AFTER  
I QUIT WORKING.

12-26-85

MAUREEN; I HAVE RECONCILED OUR DIFFERENCES  
ENOUGH TO HAVE MADE IT THROUGH CHRISTMAS  
WITHOUT A GREAT DEAL OF TORMOL. IN FACT IT'S  
BEEN ~~©~~ SORRY FUN - WE'VE BEEN CRUISING AROUND  
TOGETHER ON OUR BICYCLES WHEN WE'VE HAD THE

CHANGE? WE'VE GONE OUT FOR DINNER, ICE CREAM & TWO MOVIES; WILL PROBABLY GO OUT FOR DINNER TONIGHT. HOWEVER I'M SURE THINGS WILL NEVER GET ANY BETTER - WE HAVE TOO MANY DIFFERENCES IN OPINION; WE CAN'T SEEM TO MAKE EACH OTHER HAPPY WITHOUT COMPROMISING OUR INTEGRITY. IT'S ALL SEEMS TO BE A REURN OF PAST PROBLEMS WITH OTHER GIRLFRIENDS. IN FACT I'VE BEEN UNAWARE THAT WHEN SHE DOES SOMETHING I DON'T LIKE THAT I CALL HER A "TYPICAL FEMALE"; THAT COMES TO MIND OF IT I'VE BEEN SAYING IT A LOT.

SHE'S CHANGED HER AMTRAK RESERVATION TO THE 31<sup>ST</sup> OF DEC. FROM 1/8 WHICH IS A GOOD THING. WHILE THINGS AREN'T REALLY TENSE AROUND HERE, I KNOW I'M NOT AS RELAXED AS I'D LIKE TO BE. BESIDES, THE 31<sup>ST</sup> IS LOADED WITH SYMBOLISM OF TURNING OVER A NEW LEAF & ALL THAT.

I DON'T KNOW WHAT IT IS WITH WOMEN. I SUPPOSE IT'S MAINLY A MATTER OF THEIR EXPERIENCE IN HAVING TO FEND OFF GUYS ~~THAT~~ & THAT ARE WALLOWING IN A FLOOD OF MALE HORMONES THAT MAKES THEM THE WAY THEY ARE. THEY ALL SEEM TO WANT SOMEONE WHO IS

NEUTER & PASSIONATELY ROMANTIC (A DEFINITE CONTRADICTION IN TERMS); I'M NOT TOO SURE IF <sup>WANT</sup> THEY WERE EVER TO GET THAT THEY <sup>WANT</sup> SOMETHING ELSE.

SO NEEDLESS TO SAY MY FEELINGS HAVE BEEN RUFFLED; MY DEFENSES ARE UP; THEY'RE GOING TO STAY THERE. THE BENEFITS OF DOING OTHERWISE JUST AREN'T THERE ANY MORE.

OF COURSE ALL THIS IS REALLY PRETTY SCARY. THINGS WERE GREAT AT FIRST; WE WERE ABLE TO COMMUNICATE WELL, ~~BECAUSE~~ BECAUSE WE KNEW EXACTLY WHAT TO EXPECT - THAT ID BE ON MY WAY SOON. BUT AS SOON AS THINGS WERE A BIT LESS DEFINED, THE SUSPICIONS & WORRIES BLOOMED; COMMUNICATIONS GOT POORER & POORER. WHAT'S IT LIKE WHEN TWO PEOPLE GET MARRIED? AFTER LOOKING AT THE RESULT OF ABOUT 80% OF THE MARRIAGES I'VE SEEN ID HAVE TO SAY THAT THE REASONS ARE PROBABLY DIFFERENT BUT THE PROBLEMS ARE THE SAME.

WE SPENT CHRISTMAS WITH GRANDMA, HAVING DINNER WITH HER AROUND ONE O'CLOCK; THEN

220

GOING TO A MOVIE FOR A WHILE ; THEN SPENDING SOME TIME WITH HER IN THE EVENING. I'M SURE SHE LIKES MAUREEN BECAUSE THEY TALK A LOT. I USUALLY JUST SIT AROUND LIKE A ZOMBIE BECAUSE ~~BECAUSE~~ I'VE HEARD ALL THE STORIES AT LEAST 2 OR 3 TIMES.

I'M GOING TO NOTIFY THE LANDLORD TODAY THAT I'LL BE MOVING ON 1/31. HOPEFULLY I CAN TALK RICK TAMILONIS INTO LETTING ME STAY WITH HIM FOR A WHILE. I'LL PROBABLY MAIL MOST OF MY SUPERFLUOUS GEAR HOME IN A FEW WEEKS SO THAT IF I HAVE TO MOVE AROUND A BIT I CAN GET EVERYTHING ON MY BIKE (I MAY TRY STAYING WITH RICK FOR A WHILE, THEN MAX, THEN JOHN, ETC...).

12-28-85

THINGS CERTAINLY SEEM TO BE GOING FAIRLY WELL WITH MAUREEN ; ME - WE (OR AT LEAST I) ~~WE~~ WERE ABLE TO HAVE SOME FUN TOGETHER YESTERDAY FOR A CHANGE.

WE DECIDED TO RIDE OUT TO TREASURE ISLAND BEACH SINCE THE WEATHER IS FINALLY RELENTING ; IT'S WARMING UP AGAIN. IT WAS REALLY

TOO COOL TO DO MUCH MORE THAN JUST WALK & LOOK FOR SHELLS, BUT THAT WAS ENJOYABLE. WE WANTED TO STAY & SEE THE SUNSET, BUT WE WEREN'T QUITE PREPARED FOR A LONG CHILLY RIDE HOME, SO WE'LL DO THAT TOMORROW MOST LIKELY.

WE WENT TO THE MOVIES ON THE WAY HOME ; SAW "ROCKY II" SINCE IT WAS SRO FOR "JEWEL OF THE NILE". THEN WE BOUGHT A ~~CHINESE~~ CHESS SET, A BOTTLE OF BLACK TOWER, SOME CHEESE, CRACKERS & SPENT THE REST OF THE EVENING AT HOME.

TODAY, MAUREEN'S OUT RUNNING & SWIMMING (HER NORMAL AFTERNOON ROUTINE) ; I HAD A BRISK BICYCLE RIDE WITH THE BIKE CLUB THIS A.M. & RAN A BIT MORE THAN A MILE THIS AFTERNOON.

SINCE WORKING FOR UPS I'M ABLE TO RUN CLOSE TO 30 MIN. NON-STOP WITHOUT MUCH PAIN. I HAVE A VERY TIGHT ~~RIGHT~~ GROIN MUSCLE IN MY RIGHT LEG WHICH IS GIVING ME PIS, THOUGH (EVEN WHEN CYCLING) OR I'D PROBABLY DO MUCH BETTER. IT'LL WORK ITSELF OUT SOON ENOUGH.

THOUGHT. I HOPE TO RUN 20+ MILES A WEEK IN ADDITION TO BICYCLING IN ORDER TO GET IN SHAPE FOR HIKING ACROSS THE ALPS.

TONIGHT, WE'RE GOING TO THE CINEMA & DRAFTHOUSE FOR PIZZA & TO SEE "AGNES OF GOD". IT'S KIND OF BLAST DATING BY BICYCLE. I'M CERTAINLY SORRY I'VE NEVER DONE IT BEFORE. IT'S A GREAT EXCUSE FOR NOT STAYING OUT ALL NIGHT LONG.

12-29-85

COOLER THAN EXPECTED TEMPERATURES & LOTS OF CLOUDS CAUSED MAUREEN & I TO RECONSIDER OUR PLANS TO SEE THE SUNSET AT ST. PETE BEACH. INSTEAD, WE STAYED CLOSE TO HOME & WERE PRETTY LAZY. THE HIGHLIGHT OF THE DAY WAS SEEING A FREE CONCERT AT WILLIAMS PARK, A BUNCH OLD FOGEY'S PLAYING MARCHES & STUFF.

WE ALSO SPENT A LOT OF TIME PAVING TO SPEND THE DAY IN TAMPA TOMORROW. BUT SOMEWHERE ALONG THE WAY WE MANAGED TO HAVE A BIT OF A SQUARREL. NOTHING IMPORT-

ANT, NOTHING THAT SHOULD SCREW UP TOMORROW'S PLANS, BUT TROUBLE JUST THE SAME.

I'VE STARTED TO IMAGINE A CONNECTION BETWEEN THE WAY I ACT WHEN UPSET WITH MAUREEN & WHEN I'D BE UPSET WITH MIKE, ROB, OR CHERYL - IT CERTAINLY IS VERY CHILDISH. I FEEL AS THOUGH I HAVE NO CONTROL OF THE SITUATION, SO I FLY OFF THE HANDLE & JUST SULK.

AT FIRST I WAS AMAZED THAT I COULD ACT THAT WAY, BUT THE MORE I THINK OF IT IT'S NOT SO UNUSUAL. I'M SURE IF I WASN'T LIVING WITH MAUREEN THAT I'D JUST GO HOME IF I GOT UPSET, BUT OF COURSE I DON'T HAVE THAT OPTION. AND UNTIL RECENTLY GOING FOR A WALK HAS HAD LITTLE APPEAL SINCE IT'S BEEN GETTING PRETTY COLD.

I GUESS WHAT IT BOILS DOWN TO IS THAT I HAVE NO IDEA OF ~~DEALING~~ <sup>HOW TO DEAL</sup> WITH SITUATIONS WHERE SOMEBODY HAS CONTROL OVER ME, OR AT LEAST NO IDEA OF HOW TO DEAL WITH IT CONSTRUCTIVELY.

12-31-85

MAUREEN & I TRAVELED TO TAMPA BY BUS YESTERDAY IN ORDER TO SEE THE TOWN, BUT SINCE THE BUS RIDES TOOK ABOUT TWO + HOURS EACH WAY WE WERE ONLY ABLE TO SEE THE MUSEUM OF SCIENCE & INDUSTRY. IT WAS A LOT OF FUN. WE SAT IN A SIMULATED HURRICANE & ATTENDED A PHYSICS WORKSHOP & HAD FUN IN A NUMBER OF OTHER EXHIBITS. AND WE PICNIC-ED ON ~~■~~ A TERRACE THERE, FEASTING ON SUB-STYLE SANDWICHES WE MADE AT HOME.

—

MAUREEN LEFT FOR CHICAGO TODAY AT 7:00PM. WE SPENT THE DAY PACKING & DOING OUR BEST TO DRAG THINGS OUT AS LONG AS POSSIBLE. WE TALKED A BIT ABOUT HER STAYING A WHILE LONGER, BUT WE WERE BOTH GOING BROKE FAST & IT LOOKED AS THOUGH THE WEATHER WOULD PROBABLY TURN BAD AGAIN, SO WE BOTH DECIDED THAT NOW WAS PROBABLY THE BEST TIME.

IT WAS KIND OF FUN RIDING OVER TO

225

THE TRAIN STATION TOGETHER - MAUREEN WITH HER KNAPSACK ON, PANIERS ON HER BIKE & ME CARRYING TWO DUFFLE BAGS - ONE STRAPPED TO MY BACK & PROJECTING 6-8" ABOVE MY HEAD, THE OTHER STRAPPED TO MY REAR RACK.

NOW THAT I'M BACK HOME TRULY ALONE FOR THE FIRST TIME IN THREE WEEKS THE INITIAL FEELING OF MILD EUPHORIA DUE TO HAVING MY SOLITUDE BACK IS RAPIDLY GIVING WAY TO MILD DEPRESSION & AN UNACCUSTOMED FEELING OF LONELINESS. IT'S A GOOD THING THAT A BIKE CLUB RIDE & MOWING GRAMMA'S LAWN WILL KEEP ME BUSY TOMORROW.

1-2-86

A LOT RAIN KEPT ME ~~OUT~~ FROM RIDING WITH THE BIKE CLUB & MOWING GRANDMA'S LAWN AS PLANNED. IT'S WAS A REALLY BORING DAY WHICH HEIGHTENED MY FEELING OF LONELINESS.

TODAY WAS GREAT, THOUGH. I SPENT THE DAY WORKING AT R & L ENTERPRISES IN LARGO, A LITTLE MORE THAN TEN MILES AWAY.

225

I WAS SENT THERE WITH A BUNCH OF OTHER GUYS FROM MANPOWER & WE SPENT OUR FIRST FEW HOURS STRAIGHTENING UP R&L'S WAREHOUSE. (THEY MANUFACTURE VERTICAL BLINDS).

AFTER THAT, THE OTHER GUYS WORKED IN SHIPPING FOR THE DAY & I WAS PUT TO WORK ASSEMBLING BLINDS.

FIRST, THEY HAD ME CUT MATERIAL & PAPER BACKING. THEN I APPLIED THE BACKING TO THE MATERIAL & INSERTED IT INTO PLASTIC STRIPS THAT HAD CLEAR GROOVES MOUNTED ON THE FRONT CALLED "GROOVERS".

AFTER THAT WAS DONE I INSERTED SOME MACRAME-LIKE MATERIAL INTO GROOVERS & PUNCHED A NUMBER OF HOLES IN THEM IN ORDER MAKE FINISHED BLINDS.

ONE OF THE GIRLS THERE, A 19 YEAR OLD LITTLE NAMED CINDY WAS PRETTY HOT FOR ME, OR SO MY IMAGINATION LED ME TO BELIEVE. I WAS PRETTY AMUSED BECAUSE

228  
SHE & JOANNE, HER COWORKER, HAD BEEN TALKING & CINDY SAID SHE WAS DISGUSTED BY SOMEONE THAT WANTED TO DATE HER THAT WAS THIRTY ("HE'S OLD ENOUGH TO BE MY FATHER"). THAT WAS PRETTY FLATTERING.

I PICKED UP MY CHECK AT UPS TODAY - \$290 BEFORE TAXES. IT'S ALL 1986 EARNINGS SO ALL THE TAX WITHHELD I'LL GET BACK NEXT NEAR, WHICH IS GREAT. IF THE CHECK HAD BEEN WRITTEN DEC 31 I WOULD HAVE PAID ABOUT \$70 TO OLE UNCLE SAM!

I MAY GO SEE ABOUT GETTING UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS TOMORROW IF I HAVE TIME.

(1-5-86)

FRIDAY WAS A LAZY DAY AS I USED THE HEAVY MORNING FOG AS AN EXCUSE TO LAZIE AROUND TIL NOON.

THE CLOSEST THING TO A NOTABLE EVENT WAS TURNING IN MY UNIFORM AT UPS, WHICH CAUSED ME TO GO TO THE UNEMPLOYMENT OFFICE TO FILE A CLAIM, WHICH I CAN'T DO UNTIL

MONDAY.

SATURDAY WAS A GREAT DAY. A BUNCH OF US DROVE UP TO SAN ANTONIO FOR A 45 MILE RIDE THROUGH THE HILLS, WHICH WERE HONEST-TO-GOD HILLS, THOUGH NONE WERE LONG ENOUGH TO BE WORTH BRAGGIN' ABOUT.

THE SCENERY WAS NICE, YET IT WAS THE SAME NICE UNSPECTACULAR SCENERY THAT DOMINATES THE EAST COAST SOUTH OF D.C. THE THING THAT I FOUND INTERESTING WERE THE GROVES OF DEAD ORANGE TREES THAT WERE KILLED BY THE FROSTS OF THE PAST FEW WINTERS.

THERE WERE EIGHT OF US CYCLING: JASON, DAVE, BRIAN, LAURA, MIKE, DANE, TINA BACON & MYSELF. WE ALSO RAN INTO TWO GUYS FROM TAMPA: PAUL & TIMOTHY, WHO RODE WITH US MOST OF THE WAY.

THE AFTERNOON WAS CAPPED OFF WITH THE DISCOVERY THAT DAVE, WHO HAD DRIED JASON & I UP, HAD GOTTEN LOST ON THE WAY BACK. JASON & I STAYED BEHIND AS THE OTHER FIVE DROVE

OF LOOKING FOR HIM.

AFTER A WHILE DANE SHOWED UP AFTER BEING GIVEN A RIDE BY A GUY FROM DADE CITY. HE ENDED UP PEDALING THERE, SEVEN MILES OFF COURSE, & GOT DISCOURAGED WHEN SOME PEOPLE TRIED TO EXPLAIN HOW HE COULD FIND SAN ANTONIO, SO ONE OF 'EM TOOK PITY ON HIM & TAXIED HIM OVER.

IT WAS A PLEASANT WAIT & TURNED OUT TO BE A GREAT EXCUSE TO KICK BACK A COUPLE OF BEERS.

AFTER I GOT BACK, I CALLED MAUREEN WHO DIDN'T HAVE MUCH TO SAY OTHER THAN SHE WAS DEPRESSED - I GUESS IT WAS PRETTY COLD UP THERE & SHE'S ALREADY MAKING PLANS TO MOVE TO ARIZONA THOUGH THAT'LL TAKE A FEW MONTHS.

SHE MADE ONE COMMENT "I'M SURPRISED I MISS YOU" THAT COULD HAVE BEEN TAKEN AS A SORT OF INSULT, BUT I FELT THE SAME WAY. I CERTAINLY WOULD LIKE TO KNOW WHAT

133  
WOULD HAVE HAPPENED NEXT IF SHE STAYED,  
BUT I COULDN'T AFFORD TO FIND THE ANSWER.

SUNDAY'S BEEN A DRAG, MAINLY BECAUSE  
A HEAVY EARLY MORNING RAIN TOOK AWAY  
ANY VENTURE TO GO OUTSIDE. I DID TRY  
TO CALL MIKE KARCH A FEW TIMES AS I'VE  
BEEN DOING ALL WEEK, BUT STILL NO LUCK.

1-7-86

NOT MUCH HAPPENS THESE DAYS. THE WEATHER  
IS NICE ENOUGH TO PLAY AROUND IN ONCE IN  
A WHILE, BUT QUITE OFTEN IT'S EITHER TOO  
COLD OR THERE'S A FAIR CHANCE OF RAIN.

I'M SORRY I DON'T ENJOY GOING OVER  
TO GRANDMA'S. I'D WOULDN'T MIND GOING  
OVER THERE TO SEE TV NOW & THEN, BUT  
I FEEL BAD IF I DON'T HAVE A LOT TO SAY  
TO HER. AND I'M NOT THRILLED ABOUT RIDING  
HOME LATE AT NIGHT EITHER.

I GET A BIG KICK OUT OF TRAVELING  
AROUND & JUST SCRAPPING BY, BUT STAYING IN  
ONE PLACE I JUST GET BORED / LONELY. I

NEED TO FIND A GIRLFRIEND OR SOMETHING,  
BUT I WON'T BE AROUND LONG ENOUGH  
TO MAKE IT WORTH WHILE, EVEN IF I DO FIND  
SOMEONE FAIRLY SOON.

OH WELL.

I WORKED AT ST. PETERSBURG JUNIOR COLLEGE  
TODAY IN THEIR DISTRICT OFFICE IN CENTRAL  
SERVICES. I PUT IN SIX HOURS, ABOUT 2 OR 3  
HOURS OF WORK & THE REST JUST STANDING  
AROUND. THE GUYS THERE (JOE, RON, & HENRY)  
ARE A BUNCH OF GEEF-OFFS & THEY KNOW  
THEIR BOSS, JOAN, IN TO THINKING THEY'RE  
DOING THE BEST THEY CAN. WHEN IN REALITY  
THEY DO THE LEAST THEY CAN.

ANYWAY, THE 'BIG THING' WAS TO MOVE ABOUT  
A DOZEN VERY HEAVY FILE CABINETS, WHICH WE  
DID (RON & I). OF COURSE, RON PUT ON A BIG  
SHOW & WHINED & WHIMPERED ABOUT HOW DIFFICULT  
IT WAS TO DO (WHICH WASN'T MUCH OF AN  
OVERSTATEMENT), BUT HE PROBABLY SPED MORE  
SWEAT THINKING ABOUT THE ENERGY HE HAD  
EXPENDED THAN HE DID WHILE DOING IT.

233

110-86

I'VE BEEN WORKING AT PALMS OF PASADENA HOSPITAL THE PAST THREE DAYS & WILL BE THERE AT LEAST SATURDAY, MONDAY, WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY OF NEXT WEEK.

THEY'RE IN THE PROCESS OF EXPANDING & WE'VE BEEN MOVING DEPARTMENTS AROUND IN PREPARATION OF CONSTRUCTION BEING COMPLETED.

ON WEDNESDAY I WORKED WITH ~~ROGER~~ ROGER, AN UNEMPLOYED CARPENTER FROM CINCINNATI, & 'LITTLE JOE' A BLACK KID ABOUT 6'5" THAT WEIGHED AT LEAST 350 POUNDS & WAS TRAINING TO BE A TRUCK DRIVER.

WE SPENT THE DAY MOVING BIOMED TO A BUILDING OUTSIDE THE HOSPITAL & WE MOVED A DOZEN BEOS AROUND FROM ONE PLACE TO ANOTHER.

THINGS WERE PRETTY SLACK. AT ONE POINT OUR SUPERVISOR ~~HE~~ EVEN HAD US HIDE IN A ROOM IN THE 'ANNEX' ACROSS

114-86

THE STREET BECAUSE HE DIDN'T WANT TO FIND SOMETHING FOR US TO DO UNTIL THE BEOS ARRIVED.

THURSDAY WAS AS SLACK AS WEDNESDAY, PERHAPS MORE SO. WE MOVED A FEW MORE BEOS AROUND & THEN SPENT A GOOD PART OF THE REST OF THE DAY DUSTING OUT THE CABINETS IN THE NEW ER. VERY SLOWLY.

WE DID A FEW OTHER THINGS, BUT MOST OF WHAT WE DID WAS BUSY WORK & COULD HAVE BEEN DONE BY THE STAFF HOUSEKEEPERS IF THEY HAD ANY AMBITION.

I FOUND A BROKEN GOLD BRACELET ON THE FLOOR IN FRONT OF HOUSEKEEPING, WHICH I SHOWED TO ROGER (LITTLE JOE COULDN'T WORK TODAY) WHO DECIDED TO KEEP IT TO SEE IF HE COULD CASH ~~IT~~ IT IN FOR A LITTLE SPENDING MONEY. A WHILE LATER A BLACK HOUSEKEEPER ~~HE~~ ASKED ME IF I SAW IT BUT BY THAT TIME ROGER HAD

1-14-86

237

ALREADY HOCICED IT FOR \$25.

I GOT THE IMPRESSION IT HAD COST  
WELL OVER A HUNDRED BUCKS.

ROGER & I WERE BACK AT IT AGAIN  
TODAY, PISSIN' AROUND & DOING VERY LITTLE.  
WE EMPTIED SOME TRASH INTO THE  
INCINERATOR, STORED SOME XMAS DECOR-  
ATIONS, SHUFFLED SOME CHAIRS AROUND  
QUITE A NUMBER OF TIMES, MOVED SOME  
SOFAS & LOCKERS, ALL AT A SNAIL'S PACE,  
TO PASS THE FIRST SIX HOURS.

WE EVEN MANAGED TO TON SOME  
FREE SANDWICHES & DONUTS OUT OF THE  
OR. NURSES WHEN WE MOVED THE LOCKERS.

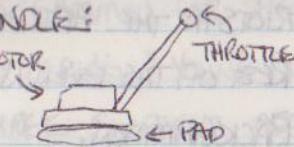
WE ACTUALLY WORKED THE FINAL TWO  
HOURS, MOVING MAMMOGRAPHY TO ITS NEW  
ROOM & SOME OF THE HEAVIER THINGS  
INTO THE NEW ER. FROM ITS TEMPORARY  
LOCATION.

THINGS ARE LOOKING BETTER!

ROGER & I WORKED SATURDAY GETTING THE  
AREA THAT ER MOVED OUT OF READY FOR PATIENTS.  
I ~~RE~~ SPENT THE MAJORITY OF THE DAY TOUCHING  
UP THE WALLS & DOOR FRAME WITH SOME FRESH  
PAINT & ROGER CLEANED THE CARPETS WITH A  
CARPET BUFFER.

I HAD FUN TRYING TO LEARN TO USE THE  
CARPET BUFFER, WHICH WAS A MACHINE WITH  
A LARGE PAD RESTING AGAINST THE FLOOR  
WHICH WAS SPUN CLOCKWISE BY A MOTOR  
~~THAT WAS CONTROLLED BY A THROTTLE~~

ON THE HANDLE:



WHEN I FIRST STARTED THE BUFFER IT  
TRIED TO TAKE OFF IN A CIRCLE TO MY LEFT,  
BUT WITH A LOT OF HELP FROM ROGER I LEARNED  
TO CONTROL IT'S DIRECTION BY LIFTING THE  
HANDLE UP TO GO RIGHT, & LOWERING IT TO  
GO LEFT.

ON SUNDAY I GOT UP EARLY TO RIDE WITH THE BIKE CLUB TO PASS-A-GRILLE BEACH, DESPITE A LIVELY WIND & SOME COLD TEMPERATURES, & THEN STOPPED BY TO SEE RICK TAMULONIS ON THE WAY HOME.

1/9/08  
I SPENT THE AFTERNOON & EVENING WITH ALEA SANDOB, MY NEIGHBOR. SHE'S AN RN & SUPERVISES A HOME HEALTH AGENCY. WE TOOK A LAZY BIKE RIDE DOWN TO THE PIER & basked in the sun which was great since we were sheltered by the wind.

WE RETURNED HOME TO SEE THE DOLPHINS LOSE TO THE PATRIOTS IN THE AFC CHAMPIONSHIP GAME & SPENT THE REST OF THE EVENING GETTING DRUNK & PLAYING BACKGAMMON.

MONDAY WAS ANOTHER LAZY DAY AT PALMS. ROGER & I SPENT MOST OF THE MORNING DOING MAKE-WORK JOBS UNTIL WE FINALLY GOT A FEW BEDS IN WHICH WE MOVED TO THE UNIT WE CLEANED & PAINTED ON SATURDAY.

ROGER LEFT EARLY & I SPENT THE LAST

DAY HALF OF THEM WORKING BY MYSELF, MAINLY WORKING OUTSIDE IN THE SUN LOADING THE INCINERATOR. I WAS ALMOST ENJOYING MYSELF WHEN I REALIZED I HAD IT LOADED TOO FULL & HAD TO JUMP INSIDE & PULL GARBAGE OUT. SINCE IT'S COMPACTED BY A HUGE HYDRAULIC RAM IT WAS A PAIN IN THE BUTT TO UNLOAD. THE PLASTIC BAGS WERE WEDGED IN TIGHT & FELL APART AS I PULLED AT THEM & OCCASSIONALLY SENT BLOOD & MUCK FLYING EVERYWHERE.

I SPENT THE EVENING WITH ALEA PLAYING DARTS & BACKGAMMON FOR BEER (AFTER WE GOT BACK FROM SEEING "YOUNG SHERLOCK HOLMES") & I WON THREE SIX PACKS OFF HER.

AFTER DATING MAUREEN & ALEA I WONDER WHY I LET MYSELF GET SO UNCOMFORTABLE WITH OTHER WOMEN WHO EXPECTED TOO MUCH OF ME. WITH BOTH OF THEM (& UNDOUBTEDLY WITH MOST WOMEN) IT'S INCREDIBLY EASY TO HAVE A GREAT TIME BECAUSE WE CAN BE HAPPY DOING JUST ABOUT ANYTHING.

24

IF I EVER DATE SOMEONE THAT EXPECTS  
ME TO SHOW THEM AN EXCEPTIONALLY UNIQUE GOOD  
TIME WHEN I DON'T REALLY WANT TO DO THAT,  
THEY'LL GET THEIR WALKING PAPERS IMMEDIATELY.

—  
TODAY'S BEEN A LAZY DAY SINCE I DIDN'T  
GO TO WORK, PARTLY BECAUSE IT WAS TOO  
COLD ; PARTLY BECAUSE I DIDN'T GET  
ENOUGH SLEEP LAST NIGHT.

ALEA ; I PLAN ON DOING LAUNDRY TOGETHER  
TONIGHT ; WORK ON THE TWO SIX-PACKS  
I WON.

1-21-86

I GUESS I'VE BEEN BUSY SINCE I HAVEN'T  
WRITTEN IN MY JOURNAL FOR A WEEK NOW.

I'VE MANAGED TO CAUSE ALEA TO AMASS  
QUITE A ~~small~~ DEBT IN BEERS PLAYING DARTS,  
LAST CARD, CRIBBAGE, & BACKGAMMON. I GET  
LUCKY & MANAGE TO WIN TWO OUT OF THREE  
GAMES WHICH USUALLY IS EQUAL TO ONE OR  
TWO SIX-PACKS A NIGHT.

I'VE BEEN SPENDING EVERY EVENING WITH

ALEA, THOUGH WE HAVEN'T DONE ANYTHING  
REALLY EXCITING. WE WENT TO SEE "RUNAWAY  
TRAIN" THE OTHER DAY ? GOOFED AROUND AT  
THE TYRONE SQUARE MALL. WE STOPPED AT  
'HOT SAM'S' FOR HOT SOFT PRETZELS TOPPED  
WITH CHEDDAR CHEESE & PIZZA SAUCE WHICH  
WERE GREAT.

WE ALSO RENTED THE VIDEO "EATING RAGS"  
WHICH WAS HILARIOUS. IT WAS ABOUT A  
PRUDISH COUPLE WHO NEEDED MONEY TO BUY  
A RESTAURANT ; TRIED TO GET IT BY ADVERTISING  
TO DO KINKY SEX ; THEN MURDERING THEIR  
CUSTOMERS ; ROLLING THEM ; THEN HAVING A  
MIDDLEMAN DISPOSE OF THE BODIES AT A DOG  
FOOD FACTORY.

I'VE BEEN WORKING AT FOTOMAT SINCE  
FRIDAY ; I HOPE I GET OUT OF HERE SOON. I'VE  
BEEN FILING & FILE SEARCHING THE WHOLE TIME  
I'VE BEEN HERE ; I'D REALLY LIKE TO DO SOME-  
THING ELSE. BUT IT'S BEEN NICE SINCE IT'S JUST  
SLIGHTLY OVER A MILE FROM HOME.

243

1-22-86

YET ANOTHER SATISFYING YET UNNOTABLE  
DAY

IM ONCE AGAIN FILING, UNFILEING, & FILLING  
PERSONNEL FOLDERS AT FOTOMAT. TODAY  
ISN'T TOO BAD, THOUGH. AT LEAST IT'S A  
DEFINITE IMPROVEMENT OVER PURGING FILES,  
AS TAMMY & I DID YESTERDAY. THAT WAS BURK  
& REQUIRED CONCENTRATION — A DIFFICULT TASK  
INDEED.

TODAY I'VE BEEN ABLE TO LET MY MIND  
WANDER MUCH AS I DO WHEN CYCLING  
THROUGH THE FLATLANDS & SO I'M QUITE CONTENT.  
I CERTAINLY HOPE I GET A CHANCE TO DO  
SOMETHING DIFFERENT ONCE IN A WHILE.  
I DON'T MIND MAKING MINIMUM WAGE, BUT I  
WOULD LIKE TO LEARN SOMETHING AS WELL.

I GOT THE IMPRESSION AFTER TALKING  
WITH MY SUPERVISOR, MARY WILLIAMS, THAT I  
COULD BE HERE FOR A MONTH OR MORE DOING  
ODD JOBS. I'LL HAVE TO WORK ON CONVINCING  
THEM TO TURN ME LOOSE STRAIGHTENING UP  
THEIR 'ARCHIVES'. AT LEAST I'D BE BUSY ALL

244

DAY & BE AWAY FROM ALL THE FLAKEY  
PEOPLE IN TIES & DRESSES IN THE OFFICE.

ALEA & I SPENT LAST NIGHT WATCHING  
A VIDEO (& 'THIEF OF HEARTS'). TONIGHT'S  
LAUNDRY & WALK THE DOGS (BROWN DOG &  
COURTNEY) NIGHT & WELL ALSO POLISH OFF  
THE SPAGHETTI LEFT OVER FROM OUR BIG FEED  
ON MONDAY.

1-24-86

IM CLEANING UP THE ARCHIVES TODAY AS I  
HOPED I COULD.

MY BOSS, SHARON TRIGO (PRONOUNCED TUREO),  
GAVE ME SOME RATHER DETAILED INSTRUCTIONS  
WHICH I'VE SIMPLIFIED TO "IF IN DOUBT, THROW IT  
OUT". THERE'S NO SINCE WORRYING ABOUT BEING  
PERFECT WHEN GETTING PAID \$3.25/HR.

I'VE BEEN REBUKED BY HER ONCE ALREADY  
FOR TOSING OUT "TERM" (TERMINATION) FILES  
WITHOUT HER BLESSING, BUT SHE & I BOTH  
KNOW THAT IT WAS O.K. FOR ME TO DO THAT.

I SHOULD PROBABLY SLOW DOWN & TAKE IT

EASY (THOUGH I'M NOT WORKING UP MUCH OF A SWEAT NOW), BUT I DON'T WANT TO MAKE A CAREER OF WORKING FOR FOTOMAT. THE WEATHER'S WARMING UP AGAIN, & I'D LIKE TO WORK 5 OR 10 MILES FROM HOME SO I CAN AT LEAST ENJOY IT ON MY WAY TO & FROM WORK.

AND THERE'S A LOT TO BE SAID FOR HAVING A DAY OFF DURING THE WEEK, TOO. I HAVE A HARD TIME KEEPING UP MY JOURNAL, WRITING LETTERS, READING, & STUDYING SPANISH & FRENCH WHEN I WORK AS OFTEN AS I HAVE BEEN.

RIGHT NOW I'M SITTING IN THE PARKING LOT AT THE REAR OF FOTOMAT. I'VE LOADED THE DUMPSTER WITH FILES & AM WAITING FOR A STANDBY PICKUP BY THE GARBAGE MAN. THAT'S WHERE I RELOAD THE DUMPSTER, AFTER IT'S EMPTIED, ~~REMOVED~~ WITH CASES OF FILES THAT I'VE STACKED OUTSIDE IT. I'VE BEEN SITTING IN THE SUN WAITING FOR AN HOUR & FIFTEEN MINUTES SO FAR.

2-6-86

260

I GUESS IT'S TIME ONCE AGAIN TO UPDATE THE OLD JOURNAL.

I'M STILL WORKING AT FOTOMAT DOING THE SAME OLD STUFF: FILING, REORGANIZING, CLEANSING. I'M ALSO STILL WORKING FIVE DAYS A WEEK, INSTEAD OF FOUR AS I'D LIKE, BUT I MAY BE LEAVING SOONER THAN EXPECTED, SO IT'S BEST TO FARM WHAT I CAN WHILE I HAVE THE CHANCE.

I MOVED OUT OF THE EFFICIENCY AT THE END OF THE MONTH & MOVED IN WITH ALEX (THOUGH I'D BEEN NEARLY LIVING THERE FOR TWO ~~MONTHS~~ WEEKS ANYWAY). BOB FERNANDEZ, MY LANDLORD, GAVE ME ALL OF MY DEPOSIT BACK & ALSO SUGGESTED THAT HE MIGHT PAY ME TO SHOW THE APARTMENTS. HE HAS FOR RENT, THOUGH HE HASN'T FOLLOWED THROUGH ON THAT. HE LIVES IN CLEARWATER & DRIVING OUT TO ST. PETERSBURG IS COSTING HIM A LOT OF TIME & MONEY.

I STARTED TO CHECK INTO POSSIBLE MODE OF TRAVEL TO EUROPE LAST WEEK.

WAS CONVINCED THAT FLYING TO LUXEMBOURG VIA ICELANDIC AIR FOR \$199 WAS THE BEST DEAL AROUND. HOWEVER SINCE THEN IVE MET A PUERTO-RICAN NAMED NIGER WHO EXPECTS TO BE GETTING A JOB SHORTLY SAILING A 56 FOOT SAILBOAT TO BARCELONA SOON & HE SAYS I COULD CREW FOR HIM IF IT ALL PANS OUT. HE ALSO SAID THERE IS A BOAT THAT NEEDS TO GO TO THE CANARY ISLANDS AS WELL WHICH IS A BETTER PROSPECT FOR ME, AS IT WOULD ASSURE ME OF A CHANCE TO VISIT MORROCCO & PORTUGAL.

NIGER ALSO WORKS FOR MANPOWER; HE HAS JUST RETURNED FROM WORKING FOR THREE YEARS IN VENEZUELA AS A WAREHOUSE MANAGER. HE CO-OWNS A RACING SAILBOAT HERE IN ST. PETE. HE'S ~~still~~ WORKING FOR MANPOWER TO STAY BUSY UNTIL THE DELIVERY JOB COMES THROUGH.

NOTHING EXCITING HAS HAPPENED LATELY.

ALEA & I GO TO THE MOVIES A LOT & WE FINALLY MANAGED TO MAKE IT TO TAMPA LAST WEEKEND. WE DIDN'T GET TO SEE THE YBOR CITY MUSEUM AS PLANNED, BUT DID GET TO SEE THE USS REQUIN, A WWII SUBMARINE; THE HENRY B. PLANT MUSEUM AT U OF TAMPA WHICH HAD ROOMS DEPICTING THE BUILDING IN THE DAYS THAT IT WAS THE TAMPA HOTEL.

ALEA WAS FIRED FROM HER JOB ON MONDAY. I SUSPECT HER BOSS KNEW SHE WAS ABOUT TO QUIT ANYWAY. SHE SHOULD BE ABLE TO FIND A JOB RIGHT AWAY & HAS ALREADY HAD SOME GOOD INTERVIEWS.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON NIGER & I ARE GOING TO CHECK OUT A VIETNAMESE RESTAURANT. SATURDAY & /OR SUNDAY ALEA & I ARE GOING TO THE GASPARILLA FESTIVAL IN TAMPA. NEXT WEEK I'M GOING TO START GETTING MY SHOTS & BUYING THE REST OF THE GEAR I'LL NEED TO GET

ON THE ROAD AGAIN.

26

ALEX GOT A JOB! SHE'S MANAGING  
GLOBAL HOME HEALTH IN NEWPORT  
RICHEY.

WE WENT OUT TO CELEBRATE & HAD  
DINNER AT BIT BONES. TO THE BEST  
OF MY RECOLLECTION IT'S THE FIRST TIME  
I'VE BEEN OUT FOR STEAK IN ABOUT SIX  
YEARS. I HAD A SIRLOIN SMOTHERED  
IN ONIONS & MUSHROOMS & A GREAT  
SALAD & HOT BREAD.

YA-HOO!

2-8-86

NIGER (P.S.) & I WENT TO LUNCH AT  
KIMBO VIET-THAI RESTAURANT ON FRIDAY.  
I HAD PORK LOIN BAMBINO, A VERY GOOD,  
VERY SPICY DISH.

I HAVE NO DOUBT THAT NIGER IS  
SINCERE ABOUT GETTING ME ON WHEN (IF)  
HE GETS HIS DELIVERY JOB. HE'LL BE  
TALKING WITH HIS FRIEND THIS WEEKEND.

TO SEE IF HE CAN FIND OUT WHEN WE ARE  
SAILING.

I'VE SPENT THE PAST TWO DAYS TYING  
UP LOOSE ENDS & PREPARING TO LEAVE.  
I COULDNT FIND ANY ~~OF~~ OF THE CLOTHES  
I NEED AROUND TOWN, SO I HAD TO  
MAIL ORDER IT ALL? IT SHOULD BE HERE  
WITHIN A WEEK & A HALF - HOPEFULLY I  
WONT LEAVE BEFORE THEN.

MONDAY MORNING I'LL START MY  
IMMUNIZATIONS. I DOUBT IF I'LL GET  
THEM FINISHED IN TIME, SO HOPEFULLY  
THEY CAN TELL ME WHERE TO FINISH  
THEM ONCE I'M IN EUROPE.

ALEX & I WENT TO SARASOTA ~~ON~~  
TODAY TO SEE THE RINGLING MUSEUM OF  
ART WHICH HAD A DISPLAY OF YOUSSEF  
KARSH PHOTOGRAPHS.

THERE MUST HAVE BEEN A LOT OF MONEY  
IN CIRCLES FROM THE LOOKS OF THE MUSEUM  
& RINGLING MANSION.

260  
WE STOPPED AT PAULO'S PIZZA & SUBS  
FOR A STEAK SUB THAT CANT BE BEAT  
& ALSO PICKED UP SOME NEW SHOES FOR ME  
AT CAMPER'S GEAR, WHERE THE OWNER LET  
US PLAY WITH HIS PET RACCOON, ROCKY.

I NEVER REALIZED THAT RACCOONS  
ACTUALLY HAVE "FINGERS" ON THEIR PAWS,  
NOT JUST CLAWS. IT'S EASY TO UNDER-  
STAND HOW THEY CAN UNZIP BAGS & OPEN  
DOORS, ETC...

2-14-86

I'M READY TO LEAVE AT ANY TIME, BUT  
STILL NO WORD. IT LOOKS AS THOUGH THINGS  
MAY NOT MATERIALIZE AS PLANNED. IF WE  
DON'T GET A BOAT TO EUROPE, NIGER MAY  
HAVE A DELIVERY IN THE CARIBBEAN THAT I  
CAN CROWD ON BEFORE I FLY.

I GOT TWO OF MY SHOTS ON MONDAY:  
YELLOW FEVER (\$11) & TETANUS (\$5). I WAS  
GLAD THEY WERE RELATIVELY INEXPENSIVE.

I RENTED A PROJECTOR ON MONDAY,  
SHOWED MY SLIDES TO ~~GRANDMA~~ GRANDMA, AUNT

PAT & ALEA. IT WOULDNT HAVE BEEN TOO  
BAD IF AVNT PAT COULD HAVE SHUT UP  
A BIT MORE OFTEN. AS IT WAS IT TOOK  
ABOUT TWO HOURS TO SELECTIVELY SHOW  
THE SLIDES? THE COMBINATION OF my BORE-  
Dom & HER DRONING-ON REALLY STARTED  
GETTING TO ME.

I'M FINALLY GETTING THE REAL STORY ABOUT  
THE SAILBOAT DELIVERY. TOM, ONE OF THE OWNERS  
OF LA GRINGA SAILING SERVICE JUST MAILED  
OFF A BID TO DELIVER A BOAT TO THE CANARY  
ISLANDS OFF THE NW. COAST OF AFRICA. HE BID  
VERY LOW DUE TO NIGER; I BEING WILLING NOT TO  
BE PAID; MY NOT NEEDING A RETURN PASSAGE.

NIGER IS VERY OPTIMISTIC ABOUT OUR CHANCES  
OF GETTING IT SINCE TOM WANTS VERY MUCH TO GO.  
HE THINKS WE HAVE AN 85% CHANCE OF GETTING  
IT BASED ON PAST LOW BIDS.

FOR VALENTINES, ALEA GAVE ME THREE BOOKS:  
"MADNESS; CIVILIZATION", "THE PRINCE", & "ZEN & THE  
ART OF MOTORCYCLE MAINTENANCE".

Brian Harrington

6401 31 term. N.

St. Pete Fl. 33710

H 813-347-5362

O " 895-1971

David Bacon

1153 63<sup>rd</sup> Av. Sr

St. Petersburg, Fla 33705

813 / 866-8511

ROGER NEYER

ALEA SANDO

5540 37th ST N

1061 19th AV N

ST. PETE, FL 33714

ST. PETE, FL 33704

(813) 821-3128

NIGER V. PJJUAN

212 1/2 BEACHDRIVE SE. APT #1

ST. PETE, FL 33705

(813) 821-5011

#### MORE BOOKS

26. HOW TO RELIEVE YOUR ACHING BACK

27. PORTNOY'S COMPLAINT

28. FEAR OF FLYING

29. SIDDHARTH

30. ~~THE ICE~~ ICE!

31. CASTLES IN THE SAND

32. LOVE

33. SAGA OF A WAYWARD SAILOR

34. CATCHER IN THE RYE

35. JUPITER'S TRAVELS

36. JAMES HERRIOT'S YORKSHIRE

37. ~~ADRI~~ ADRI

38. DOVE

## STATISTICS

10145

16

60870

101450

16232

### WORN OUT TIRES

1. NEAR FAIRPLAY, CO
2. EVANSTVILLE, OH
3. NEAR ANTIGONISH, NS
4. NEAR DARTMOUTH, NS
5. N. MYRTLE BEACH, SC

### FLAT TIRES

1. CALDWELL, ID (F)
2. NEAR STANLEY, ID (F)
3. NEAR KETCHUM, ID (F)
4. ? (R)
5. NEAR NORRIS CITY, IL (R)
6. ROCKVILLE, MD (R)
7. OSTEEN, FL (R)
899. ST. PETE, FL (F)

BROKEN SPOKES

### FERRIES TAKEN

1. SEATTLE - WILKESON
2. PT TOWNSEND - KEYSTONE
3. ANACORTES - LOPEZ IS.
4. LOPEZ IS. - SAN JUAN IS.
5. SAN JUAN IS. - ORCAS IS.
6. ORCAS IS - SIDNEY, B.C.
7. VICTORIA, B.C. - PT. ANGELES
8. SANDUSKY, OH - LEAMINGTON, ONT
9. NEAR PICTON, ONT.
10. SAGUENAY FJORD, QUÉ
11. BAIE COMEAU, QUÉ - MATANE, QUÉ
12. CAPE TORMENTINE, NB TO P.E.I.

Books

16. THUMB TRIPPING ~~REMEMBER~~
17. THE UGLY AMERICAN
18. TM : DISCOVERING INNER ENERGY; OVERCOMING STRESS
19. <sup>THE</sup> MOSQUITO COAST ~~NO PAPERBACK~~
20. PASSAGES
21. REAL MEN DON'T EAT QUICHE
22. THE RESTAURANT AT THE END OF THE <sup>UNIVERSE</sup> ~~STREET~~
23. BILLFINCH'S MYTHOLOGY
24. AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF A YOGI
25. GETTING EVEN

FERRIES TAKEN (COAST.)

13. P.E.I. TO CARIBOO PT, NS
14. NEAR NORTH SYDNEY, NS
15. DARTMOUTH, NS TO HALIFAX, NS
16. DIGBY, NS TO SAINT JOHN, NB
17. CAPE HATTERAS IS, NC TO OCRAKOCHEE IS, NC
18. OCRAKOCHEE IS, NC TO CEDAR IS, N.C.

This is part of a series of **seven** handwritten journals maintained by Steve Malone during a year and a half of bicycle touring solo throughout North America and Western Europe in 1985 and 1986.

A list of names found in **Volume 4** of this set of journals:

1. Leah Overman	10. Eva Malone	19. Tina Bacon
2. Maureen Maart	11. Pat Waltman	20. Alea Sando
3. Doug Sensenig	12. Dan Bates	21. Sharon Trgo
4. Jenny Bell	13. Rick Tamulonis	22. Bob Fernandez
5. Stan Thompson	14. Jimmy Woods	23. Niger Pijuan
6. Delores Thompson	15. Mike Malone	24. Brian Harrington
7. Jane Thompson	16. Rob Malone	25. Roger Neyer
8. Gerry George	17. Cheryl Malone	
9. Tadakazu Izumi	18. Dave Bacon	